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POPULATION STATUS AND PATTERNS OF DISTRIBUTION AND
PRODUCTIVITY OF KITTIWAKES ON ST. GEORGE ISLAND, ALASKA.

A
THESIS

Presented to the Faculty
of the University of Alaska Fairbanks

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

By
Stewart Dean Kildaw, B.S., M.Sc.

Fairbanks, Alaska

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ABSTRACT

I studied populations, distributions, and reproductive performance of red-legged and black-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island in the summers of 1993 - 1995, where populations of both species have experienced generally poor reproductive performance and population declines of ca. 40% over the past 20 years. In 1995, I conducted a whole-island census of kittiwakes on St. George Island and found estimated breeding populations of 193,930 red-legged kittiwakes (81% of their global population), and 62,568 black-legged kittiwakes. In addition, I analyzed census trends on 51 land-based census plots on St. George Island and found that numbers of both species have stabilized in recent years.

I experimentally evaluated the hypothesis that nesting red-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island are competitively displaced by larger-bodied black-legged kittiwakes to narrower rock ledges and higher elevations. I determined nest-site preferences of both species by attaching narrow and wide artificial nesting ledges within high- and low-elevation areas of St. George Island and found no evidence of competitive displacement: red-legged kittiwakes preferred narrow ledges, black-legged kittiwakes preferred wide ledges, and both species preferred ledges in areas where conspecifics nested at high density.

Multiple regression analyses suggested that kittiwakes breed earlier and more successfully in summers preceded by cold winters and that inter-annual variability in kittiwake breeding success was unrelated to weather conditions during the breeding season itself. These results suggest that winter weather has indirect effects on breeding kittiwakes by influencing prey abundance several months later. Furthermore, strong winds impaired growth rates of kittiwake chicks in exposed nest sites and the growth of black-legged kittiwake chicks relative to red-legged kittiwake chicks.

I identified two prominent patterns of within-colony spatial variability in kittiwake productivity and suggest that patchy "bird quality" or localized "information

neighborhoods" may be responsible because traditional explanations do not apply. The "information neighborhood" is a new hypothesis which proposes that individuals are influenced by the breeding status of neighbors because their status represents an additional source of information about current breeding conditions that can be used to better tailor parental investment.

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Kittiwakes are small, cliff nesting gulls that are apex consumers in marine ecosystems. Red-legged and black-legged kittiwakes are ecologically similar species that share several traits: they avoid terrestrial predators by building nests on small rock projections on vertical cliff faces (Cullen 1957); they are members of a guild of surface-feeding seabirds, capturing prey (small fish and large zooplankton) within the uppermost 1 m of the water column; they are long-lived, exhibit a low annual reproductive output, and exhibit high levels of both mate and nest-site fidelity (Byrd and Williams 1993, Baird 1994).

In contrast, these two species differ in several biologically significant ways. Red-legged kittiwakes are smaller-bodied than black-legged kittiwakes and have proportionately smaller bills and larger eyes (Byrd and Williams 1993). Compared to black-legged kittiwakes, red-legged kittiwakes breed on narrower rock ledges and build nests that are smaller in diameter and composed of a thicker base of adhesive mud (Squibb and Hunt 1983). Clutch size differs between species: red-legged kittiwakes rarely lay more than one egg whereas black-legged kittiwakes typically lay two and occasionally three eggs (Byrd and Williams 1993). The diet of the two species also differs markedly. Red-legged kittiwakes feed primarily on energy-rich myctophid fishes (Byrd and Williams 1993, Lance 1996) which they encounter at night at the surface layer of deep oceanic waters, while black-legged kittiwakes have a more generalized diet and forage on prey species within comparatively shallow continental shelf waters. Lastly, the distributions of the two species differ markedly. Whereas black-legged kittiwakes are abundant and widely distributed throughout the north temperate latitudes (Baird 1994), red-legged kittiwakes are endemic to the Bering Sea and breed at only four known locations (Byrd et al. 1997). Furthermore, more than 80% of world's breeding population of red-legged kittiwakes is localized on St. George Island (the southern-most of the Pribilof Islands) in the south-eastern Bering Sea (Byrd et al 1997), where they are

concentrated within the highest-elevation coastal cliffs on the island (Hickey and Craighead 1977).

In general, the productivity of kittiwakes in North Pacific has been lower and more variable than that of black-legged kittiwakes in the North Atlantic. In particular, populations of both species on St. George Island experienced generally poor productivity during the 1980's and population declines of 40% between the 1976 and the mid-late 1980's and. Other apex consumers in the Bering Sea have also experienced dramatic population reductions over the past two decades (Merrick et al. 1987, York and Kosloff 1987, Pitcher 1990), suggesting that ecosystem-wide changes may have contributed to declines in kittiwake populations on St. George Island. The red-legged kittiwake is currently considered a "species of concern" because its breeding distribution is restricted and because of the questionable status of its population on St. George Island. Investigations described within this thesis were conducted to further our understanding of the population status and patterns of distribution and productivity of kittiwakes breeding on St. George Island.

Our present understanding of the importance of St. George Island to the global breeding population of red-legged kittiwakes is based on an imprecise whole-island census conducted in 1976 (Hickey and Craighead 1977). In Chapter 1, I present the results of a whole-island census of kittiwakes on St. George Island in 1995, and critically evaluate trends in kittiwake numbers on land-based count plots between 1976 and 1995.

The nesting distribution of the two kittiwake species on St. George Island differs in two key ways. Red-legged kittiwakes are concentrated within high elevation areas and nest on narrower rock ledges than do black-legged kittiwakes (Hickey and Craighead 1977, Squibb and Hunt 1983). In Chapter 2, I determine whether the distribution of red-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island is shaped by competitive displacement by larger-bodied black-legged kittiwakes.

The remaining two chapters address factors that influence breeding success of

kittiwakes on St. George Island. Although variable productivity of kittiwakes is usually attributed to fluctuations in prey abundance, weather may have direct and indirect effects on prey abundance and kittiwake foraging efficiency in a number of ways. In Chapter 3, I evaluate the contribution of weather to inter-annual variability in kittiwake productivity and the effects of strong winds on growth rates of kittiwake chicks.

In addition to inter-annual variability in productivity, kittiwakes exhibit marked with-colony variability in productivity on St. George Island. In Chapter 4, I describe spatial patterns of within-colony productivity and evaluate several hypotheses which potentially explain them.

A CENSUS OF KITTIWAKES ON ST. GEORGE ISLAND, ALASKA, IN 1995¹

SUMMARY

In late July 1995, I conducted a whole-island census of kittiwakes on St. George Island, Alaska, by photographing cliffs around the entire perimeter of the island and later counting birds directly from photographic negatives using a dissecting microscope. Raw counts from 825 cliff-photographs were adjusted by observability and mis-classification correction factors for kittiwakes and were partitioned into Red-legged Kittiwake and Black-legged Kittiwake fractions using the relative abundance of the two species determined from 426 land-based plots. Whole-island totals were $156,902 \pm 27,956$ (95% CI) Red-legged Kittiwakes and $45,972 \pm 10,860$ (95% CI) Black-legged Kittiwakes. These totals are minimum estimates of the colony attendance of kittiwakes on St. George Island because observability correction factors likely underestimate the number of misclassified kittiwakes on the highest elevation photographs and because some cliff area could not be photographed from the water. I transformed my census total for red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island to a breeding population estimate (96,965 nests = 193,930 individuals) and estimated that Red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island comprise 81% of a global breeding population of 239,060 Red-legged Kittiwakes. A census of kittiwakes on 51 "common" land-based plots on St. George Island in 1995 produced population totals of 2480 Red-legged Kittiwakes and 694 Black-legged Kittiwakes. Counts in 1995 were 70% and 77% of counts in 1976 for Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes, respectively. After a period of marked decline between 1976 and the late-1980's, land-based counts of both species on St. George Island have stabilized in recent years.

¹ Prepared for publication in *Bird Conservation International* as: Kildaw S. D. A census of kittiwakes on St. George Island, Alaska, in 1995.

INTRODUCTION

St. George Island, Alaska, is the breeding site of one of the largest aggregations of cliff-nesting seabirds in the North Pacific. In 1976, Hickey and Craighead (1977) conducted counts of cliff-nesting seabirds on St. George Island and reported a total of 2.1 million birds, including an estimated 222,700 Red-legged Kittiwakes (*Rissa brevirostris*) and 71,500 Black-legged Kittiwakes (*R. tridactyla*). Although such "attendance" counts represent an unknown and varying proportion of the total population of kittiwakes that are associated breeding colonies, they are an easily-obtained index of population size that is less sensitive to inter-annual variability in reproductive performance than are other potential indices of kittiwake populations (e.g. counts of nests, Hatch and Hatch 1988).

Over the past 20 years, population trends of both species of kittiwakes on St. George Island have been monitored on land-based census plots that were established in 1976 by Hickey and Craighead (1977). By the mid-late 1980's, numbers of both species had declined to roughly 60% of their levels in 1976 (Dragoo and Sundseth 1993). In contrast, counts of Red-legged Kittiwakes more than doubled between the mid-1970's and the late-1980's on Buldir Island, and more than tripled between the mid-1970's and the early-1990's at Bogoslof Island. (Byrd et al. 1997).

Unlike the Black-legged Kittiwake, which has a circumpolar breeding distribution and a global population that numbers in the millions, the Red-legged Kittiwake is endemic to the Bering Sea. Approximately 80% of the global population of Red-legged Kittiwakes breeds on St. George Island, one of only 4 known breeding locations for this species (Byrd et al. 1997). Because Red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island experienced population declines and generally poor reproductive success during the 1980's (Dragoo and Sundseth 1993), the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service considers the Red-legged Kittiwake a "species of concern", a potential precursor to "threatened" or "endangered" classification under the Endangered Species Act.

An updated whole-island census of Red-legged Kittiwakes is needed because our present understanding of the importance of St. George Island to the global Red-legged

Kittiwake population is dependent on a crude, whole-island estimate that is 20 years old (Hickey and Craighead 1977). The purpose of this study was three-fold: a) to conduct a whole-island census of kittiwakes on St George Island, b) to census kittiwakes on land-based plots, and c) to evaluate population trends of kittiwakes over the past 20 years on St. George Island.

METHODS

Study Area

St. George Island is a small (20 km long x 8 km wide), irregular-shaped island located in the southeastern Bering Sea (56° 35' N 169° 35' W). Low cliffs of basalt comprise most of its perimeter; however, cliffs rise to an elevation of 300 m ASL in the northwestern corner of the island (Figure 1.1).

Whole-island Census

I conducted a whole-island census of kittiwakes on St. George Island in 1995 using procedures similar to those employed by Hickey and Craighead (1977). In 1976, Hickey and Craighead (1977) photographed the cliffs around the entire perimeter of the island from an inflatable boat using a Pentax 6x7 camera, a 105 mm lens, and Tri-X, black and white film. An initial set of whole-island photographs was taken on 7 July and 15 July, a second set was taken 29 July, and additional photographs of high-elevation areas in the northwestern corner of the island were taken 5-6 August. Most photographs that were later used for census purposes were taken on 29 July, a date corresponding to the peak-hatch period of kittiwakes in 1976 (mean hatch date for Red-legged Kittiwakes = 5 Aug and for Black-legged Kittiwakes = 28 July; Dragoo and Dragoo 1996).

Hickey and Craighead (1977) determined the number of kittiwakes on St. George Island by counting all “white birds” within the boundaries of 100, 30 m x 30 m “random” plots (that were randomly located on 11" x 14" enlargements of whole-island photographs) and partitioning white-bird counts into Red-legged Kittiwake, Black-legged

Kittiwake, and Northern Fulmar (*Fulmaris glacialis*) fractions using the relative abundances of these species from single counts of 63 land-based plots located around the perimeter of the island. They estimated whole-island population totals by multiplying average bird densities determined from "random" plots by an estimate of the total surface area of cliffs on St. George Island.

In 1995 I censused kittiwakes on St. George Island by photographing cliffs around the entire perimeter of the island from a Zodiac boat and counting kittiwakes directly from photographic negatives using a dissecting microscope. Photographs were taken within daily and seasonal census windows that were established by the USFWS for land-based census work on St. George Island (Byrd et al. 1985, Byrd 1989) to minimize effects of daily and seasonal variability in the colony attendance of kittiwakes on St. George Island: cliffs were photographed within a daily census window between 1200-2000 hrs ADT (Alaska Daylight Time = GMT - 8 hrs; solar noon on St. George Island = 1520 hrs ADT) and within a seasonal census window between the last day of egg laying (9 July) and first day of fledging (5 August) of Thick-billed Murres (*Uria lomvia*) (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996). Photographing cliffs from a small boat required weather conditions that are exceptionally rare on St. George Island: no fog, calm seas, and a cloud ceiling greater than 300 m. In 1995, I photographed most of the perimeter of the island on two days, 27 July and 30 July, approximately 2 weeks after the mean hatch date of 12 July for Red-legged Kittiwakes (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996), and near the end of the seasonal census window for that year.

Photographs were taken with a Pentax 6x7 medium format camera and a 300 mm lens. I exposed 55 rolls of 400 ASA Kodak PMC color print film at a maximum aperture setting of $f/4.5$ and a minimum shutter speed of 1/1000th of a second. With these camera settings and the overcast conditions prevalent on St. George Island during the summer months, photographs were underexposed by 1-2 f -stops. I did not reduce the shutter speed to correct the exposure because a fast shutter was required to "freeze" hand-held photographs on an unstable photographic platform. Cliffs were photographed at a

distance of 300 m (measured with a Ranging 1000 range finder) and each photograph covered an area of approximately 90 m x 90 m. The higher cliffs of St. George Island were photographed in three "tiers" that covered approximately 0 - 90 m, 90 - 180 m, and > 180 m in elevation ASL.

I overlapped 825 photographs in both horizontal and vertical directions, and delimited census boundaries on each, to produce a photographic map of the cliffs of St. George Island that was composed of 854 census areas. Two major gaps in photo coverage (10 and 6 photos wide, respectively) occurred because incorrect camera settings generated poor images. I filled in these gaps with the average count of an equivalent surface area of cliff from either side of the gap. Some sections of cliff could not be photographed from the water because they faced inland or occurred in narrow indentations. I did not attempt to compensate for these missed areas but subjectively estimated that they comprised no more than 3% of the total cliff area. In other instances, slivers of cliff were not included in the photographic map because adjacent photos failed to overlap fully. I did not compensate for these missed areas because they accounted for less than 1% of the total cliff area.

Approximately 20% of the photographs were not clear enough to readily distinguish among kittiwakes, northern fulmars, and murres (*Uria* spp.). Although the photos appeared clear to the naked eye, the negatives were slightly out of focus and blurred when viewed at 10x magnification. I distinguished kittiwakes from murres in blurred photographs using the shape and posture of the bird: the white ellipse of the ventrum of a standing murre was elongated and oriented nearly vertically while the white ellipse of a kittiwake was more rounded and usually inclined at an angle of 45% or greater. I distinguished kittiwakes from fulmars on blurred photographs in two ways: 1) for upper tier photographs I classified all unidentifiable birds as kittiwakes because the relative abundance of kittiwakes and fulmars on clear upper tier photographs was 33:1 (Appendix A), and 2) for photographs within lower and middle tiers I used contextual cues to distinguish kittiwakes from fulmars: fulmars generally occur in uniformly spaced

strips of birds, are usually highlighted against a dark background, and are commonly found along interfaces between horizontal layers of basalt, in small caves, or on vegetated areas of cliff. In contrast, kittiwakes nest in loose clusters on rock cliff faces that present a more uniform background (pers. obs.).

I counted kittiwakes and fulmars directly from photographic negatives with the aid of a 7x - 30x dissecting microscope. Negative strips were mounted between two plates of 3 mm window glass and were illuminated from below with a microscope light. With this equipment I was able to regulate both magnification and light intensity when counting negatives and could standardize the brightness of the image and the size of birds in the field of view. Most negatives were counted at magnifications of between 8x and 10x.

I counted the number of kittiwakes and fulmars present within the defined census boundaries of each photograph and recorded the following: the date and time at which the photograph was taken, the elevational tier and cliff section of the photograph (Figure 1.1), and the clarity of the photograph (sharp = perfectly focused, good = kittiwakes, fulmars and murrelets can be distinguished directly, blurred = contextual cues needed to distinguish birds). Raw counts of whole-island census photographs are presented in Appendix A.

Raw counts are biased because I could not detect all kittiwakes present in photos and I misidentified some kittiwakes as fulmars and vice-versa. I corrected these biases by applying observability and misidentification correction factors (determined by comparing counts of census photos with counts of 24 close-up photographs of these same areas) to raw counts of photographs. To generate correction factors, I assumed that I could correctly identify all kittiwakes on close-up photographs and compared, bird for bird, these classifications with those made on standard census photos. I applied correction factors to raw census counts by assuming that the number of missed or mis-classified birds was proportional to the total number of kittiwakes and fulmars in the photograph. I computed two correction factors and their variances using a cluster sampling procedure

for proportions (Scheaffer et al. 1986): 1) the proportion of kittiwakes missed or misidentified as fulmars in standard census photographs, and 2) the proportion of fulmars misclassified as kittiwakes in standard census photographs. I computed separate correction factors for sharp and good quality ground-truthed photographs (Table 1.1) and applied sharp correction factors to raw counts of sharp census photographs and good correction factors to raw counts of both good and blurred census photographs (see Table 1.1 for an example). For each photograph, I determined the variance of the corrected count using the delta method (Seber 1982). I then pooled census photographs within each elevational tier of 10 cliff sections (indicated in Figure 1.1) and totaled adjusted kittiwake counts and their variances within each subsection of cliff (Table 1.2).

I could not distinguish between Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes on census photos. To partition total kittiwake counts for each subsection of cliff (each tier within each cliff section) into Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwake fractions, I used the relative abundance of the two species observed on land-based reference plots located within each subsection. I censused adult Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes on 54 land-based plots between 19 July and 5 August 1995 (see “Land-Based Counts” section for details) and used means of counts of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes on each plot for reference purposes. In addition, I monitored the number of nest attempts of each species of kittiwake on 372 nest-mapping plots during early, and late-incubation visits to plots in the 1993-1995 breeding seasons and used species totals from these plots for reference purposes. Nest-mapping plots were distributed across most subsections of cliff on St. George Island; however, where fewer than 100 birds or nests were monitored within a given subsection, I pooled data from adjacent subsections of cliff (Table 1.3). I used nest-mapping data from 1994 for reference purposes because in 1995 both kittiwake species had poor reproductive success on St. George Island (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996), and nest counts did not reflect the relative abundance of adults of each species present. I determined the mean proportion of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes and its variance within each subsection of cliff (Table 1.3) using a cluster sampling procedure for

proportions (Scheaffer et al. 1986) and partitioned adjusted counts into Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwake fractions (Table 1.2). I determined the variance of the product of adjusted census counts (Y) and species proportions (Z) using an equation that assumes independence of random variables Y and Z (Mood et al. 1974):

$$\text{var}[YZ] = (Y^2)(\text{var}[Z]) + (Z^2)(\text{var}[Y]) + (\text{var}[Y])(\text{var}[Z])$$

If the two variables are correlated, then the variance of the product is best determined using a boot-strap procedure (Efron 1982). Although I lack the appropriate data to test the assumption of independence, I used the above equation to calculate the variance because I had no *a priori* expectation that adjusted count totals and species proportions would be correlated across years. I generated whole-island population estimates for each species of kittiwake by pooling species totals and their variances across the 16 subsections of cliff (Table 1.2).

Lastly, I determined the density of kittiwakes within each elevational tier (Table 1.4) by dividing the total number of each species within each tier by estimates of the surface area of each tier (determined by measuring the length and elevation of cliffs on a detailed topographic map of St. George Island).

Land-based Counts

Over the past 20 years, kittiwake numbers on St. George Island have been monitored on land-based plots that were initially established in 1976 by Hickey and Craighead (1977). Counts were made in 1982 (Craighead and Oppenheim 1985), 1984 (Troy and Baker 1985), and 1985 - 89 and 1992 (USFWS; summarized in Dragoo and Sundseth 1993). I censused adult kittiwakes on these same plots in 1995 using census procedures established by the USFWS in 1985 (Byrd et al. 1985). In 1995, most counts of adult kittiwakes and nests were conducted within a daily census window of 1200-2000 hrs (ADT) and between 19 July and 5 August, a time period falling within a seasonal census window defined by the first hatching (9 July) and first fledging (5 August) of Thick-billed Murre chicks (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996). I departed from the USFWS

census protocol by counting each plot only once on each visit instead of 2 or more times on each visit. I censused kittiwakes at a total of 54 plots (Appendix B) and, with the exception of four plots within the Red Bluff section of cliff which were counted only once, obtained a minimum of two replicate counts for each of 51 "common" census plots on St. George Island. Common plots are a sub-sample of census plots for which data have been collected in every census year since 1976 (see Dragoo and Sundseth 1993).

Census Trends

I did not statistically compare whole-island census totals between 1995 and 1976 because census methods differed markedly between years and both censuses were unreplicated. Prior to graphically comparing whole-island census totals between 1976 and 1995, I corrected biases and mathematical errors present in the original 1976 census totals. Hickey and Craighead (1977) determined whole-island totals by multiplying estimates of kittiwake density determined from 100 random plots (each 30 m x 30 m) by an estimate of the surface area of all cliffs on St. George Island. In the original report, a computational error in table underestimated the whole-island total of the number of Red-legged Kittiwakes by 12,372 individuals: the estimate of Red-legged Kittiwake density for "stratum 2" in table 22, when multiplied by the area estimate for stratum 2 in table 26, does not equal the total reported in table 26 (Hickey and Craighead 1977). In addition, estimates of cliff area used in the original report to calculate whole-island population totals were imprecise (Table 1.5). Hickey and Craighead (1977) divided the cliffs into 5 elevational strata (each 61 m thick) and determined the total surface area of each by multiplying the cumulative length of each stratum by an arbitrary estimate of its thickness (30.5 m for most strata). I used actual measurements of the length and thickness of strata that were determined from a detailed topographic map of St. George Island to calculate the cliff area of each stratum and recalculated whole-island census totals for each species of kittiwake (Table 1.5). Lastly, for these calculations I used corrected estimates of the density of both Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes within the two highest elevation

strata on St. George Island. Hickey and Craighead (1977) assumed that the relative magnification of birds in census photographs was uniform across elevation when, in fact, magnification diminishes at higher elevations because the cliff-camera distance is greater. In the original report, the density of kittiwakes was overestimated by a factor of 2.3 within stratum 5 and by a factor of 1.6 within stratum 4 (Figure 1.2). Using corrected estimates of cliff area and kittiwake density, I generated corrected census totals of 168,368 Red-legged Kittiwakes and 81,543 Black-legged Kittiwakes for 1976 (Table 1.5).

I statistically evaluated trends in land-based census counts between 1976 and 1995 by fitting linear and quadratic regression models to census data for each kittiwake species. I determined annual census totals for each kittiwake species for 10 census years by summing mean counts of kittiwakes on 50 common census plots within each year. In computing annual census totals, I excluded data from plot #33 (one of 51 common plots on St. George Island) because a significant portion of the census face had eroded away during the 1980's and was no longer visible from the observation point.

Censusing Kittiwakes from Photographs

In 1995, I evaluated the reliability of censusing kittiwakes on land-based plot from photographs, rather than direct counts, by photographing 8 census plots at high elevation using a Pentax K1000 camera, a 60-300 mm lens, and Kodachrome, color slide film (200 ASA) immediately before conducting direct counts of kittiwakes on those plots. I compared direct counts and counts from photographs with a paired-sample t-test.

RESULTS

Whole-island Census

Raw counts of kittiwakes on photographs of the cliffs of St. George Island in 1995 (Appendix A) totaled 183,261 birds (Table 1.2). When I adjusted raw counts for observability bias (Table 1.1), counts totaled $202,874 \pm 369$ (95% CI) kittiwakes (Table

1.2). I partitioned this adjusted total between kittiwake species (Table 1.3) to generate census totals of $156,902 \pm 3793$ (95% CI) Red-legged Kittiwakes and $45,972 \pm 3780$ (95% CI) Black-legged Kittiwakes (Table 1.2). The 95% confidence intervals associated with these census totals only reflect variability associated with the correction factors that were applied to raw counts. Census totals are unreplicated point estimates because they were not derived from a “sample” of whole-island counts and, hence, incorporate no within-year measure of temporal variability in kittiwake numbers. In contrast, counts of land-based census plots on St. George Island were replicated in 1995 and had coefficients of variation ($= CV = \text{standard deviation} / \text{mean}$) of 5.0% for Red-legged Kittiwakes and 7.7% for Black-legged Kittiwakes, values that were comparable to CVs for temporally-replicated, land-based counts of kittiwakes in 6 other census years on St. George Island (mean $CV = 7.7\%$ for both species of kittiwake; Dragoo and Sundseth 1993). If the temporal variability in whole-island counts of kittiwakes was no greater than that observed in land-based counts, then, assuming normality, the 95% confidence interval would have been no greater than $\pm 15.4\%$ of the whole-island census total. I added this source of variability to whole-island estimates for kittiwakes in 1995 and produced census totals of $156,902 \pm 27,956$ (95% CI) Red-legged Kittiwakes and $45,972 \pm 10,860$ (95% CI) Black-legged Kittiwakes.

Both the density and relative abundance of Red-legged Kittiwakes increased markedly with elevation on St. George Island (Table 1.4). Within the lowest elevational tier, the population density of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes was similar (approx. 100 birds / ha); however, within the highest elevational tier, the density of Red-legged Kittiwakes was 18 times greater than at low elevation and Red-legged Kittiwakes outnumbered Black-legged Kittiwakes 22:1 (Table 1.4). Approximately 40% of the Red-legged Kittiwake population on St. George Island occurred at high elevation, within a section of cliff that comprised less than 7% of the total cliff area of the island. In contrast, Black-legged Kittiwakes were more uniformly distributed across elevations on St. George Island (Table 1.4).

Land-based Counts

Counts of 51 land-based, "common" plots in 1995 (Appendix B) totaled 2,480 Red-legged Kittiwakes and 694 Black-legged Kittiwakes. When I excluded data from census plot #33, counts for the remaining 50 census plots totaled 2,404 Red-legged Kittiwakes and 675 Black-legged Kittiwakes and were the highest recorded since the mid-1980's for both species on St. George Island (Figure 1.3).

Census Trends

Whole-island census totals for Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes in 1995 were 93 % and 56 % of corrected whole-island totals for 1976, respectively (Figure 1.4). In comparison, count totals for the land-based census in 1995 were 70 % and 77 % of counts in 1976 for Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes, respectively (Figure 1.4). I statistically evaluated trends in land-based census counts over the past 20 years with linear and quadratic regressions. Linear models fit moderately well for Red-legged Kittiwakes (census total = $8585 - 71.7(\text{year})$; $n = 10$, $r^2 = 0.57$) but poorly for Black-legged Kittiwakes (census total = $1548 - 11.0(\text{year})$; $n = 10$, $r^2 = 0.23$). Quadratic models fit data better for both Red-legged Kittiwakes (census total = $1760 - 37.5(\text{year}-1900) + 0.207(\text{year}-1900)^2$; $n = 10$, $r^2 = 0.83$) and Black-legged Kittiwakes (census total = $2421 - 53.9(\text{year}-1900) + 0.307(\text{year}-1900)^2$; $n = 10$, $r^2 = 0.89$)(Figure 1.3).

Censusing Kittiwakes from Photographs

To determine the efficacy of conducting kittiwakes censuses from photographs, I compared direct counts of kittiwakes on land-based census plots with counts determined from photographs. Although, on average, photo counts were 1.7% lower than direct counts, they did not differ statistically ($t_{7,df} = 1.72$, $p = 0.14$).

DISCUSSION

Whole-Island Census

The whole-island census of kittiwakes on St. George Island in 1995 produced estimates of $156,902 \pm 27,956$ (95% CI) Red-legged Kittiwakes and $45,972 \pm 10,860$ (95% CI) Black-legged Kittiwakes. Census totals are not direct measures of the size of kittiwake populations that are associated with St. George Island during the breeding season, rather, they are measures of the cliff attendance of kittiwake populations during the census period. Moreover, they are minimum estimates only because some cliff area was not covered by census photos, and observability correction factors likely underestimated the number of kittiwakes missed on higher-elevation cliff faces, in blurred photos, and on cliff faces that could not be photographed straight-on.

I revised the global estimate of the breeding population of Red-legged Kittiwakes using data from my whole-island census of this species on St. George Island and data from recent whole-island censuses of Red-legged Kittiwakes at other breeding colonies (Byrd et al. 1997). At all other colonies, the breeding population of Red-legged Kittiwakes was determined by doubling whole-island counts of Red-legged Kittiwake nests. To make my census of the colony attendance of Red-legged Kittiwakes comparable to nest censuses conducted at other colonies, I multiplied my whole-island total by the average ratio of nests / birds observed on land-based census plots on St. George Island. To perform this calculation, I did not use the nest / bird ratio for Red-legged Kittiwakes in 1995 because 1995 was a year of poor reproductive performance (< 0.15 fledged chicks / nest attempt), and few kittiwakes maintained their nests through the census period. Instead, I used the average nest / adult ratio from recent land-based censuses (< 10 years old) that were conducted in years when Red-legged Kittiwakes exhibited at least moderate reproductive performance on St. George Island (> 0.15 chicks fledged / nest attempt; Dragoo and Sundseth 1993). I multiplied the whole-island count of Red-legged Kittiwakes (156,902 individuals) by this composite nest / adult ratio (0.618) and estimated that the breeding population of Red-legged Kittiwakes on St.

George Island (96,965 nests = 193,930 individuals) comprises 81% of the global breeding population of this species (239,060 individuals: Table 1.6). Similarly, I determined an estimate of the breeding population of Black-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island (31,284 nests = 62,568 individuals) by multiplying the whole-island count of Black-legged Kittiwakes (65,972 individuals) by the composite nest / adult ratio (0.680) of this species.

The density and relative abundance of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes differed markedly between high- and low-elevation areas on St. George Island in both 1976 and 1995. Although both species nested in approximately equal numbers at lower elevations, the density of Red-legged Kittiwakes was more than an order of magnitude greater at higher elevations (Table 1.4). Currently, the reason for the exceptional abundance of Red-legged Kittiwakes at higher elevations on St. George Island is not clear; however, Kildaw (in press) speculates that it has arisen because of differences in nesting substrate between high- and low-elevation areas and differences in the nest-site preferences of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes.

Census Trends

Relative to corrected census totals for 1976, whole-island census totals for Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes in 1995 were 93 % and 56 % of their former levels, respectively (Figure 1.4). Comparisons between years should be interpreted with caution because census methods differed markedly: census totals for 1976 are crude estimates because random plots represented only 2.5% of the total cliff area and only 10 random plots were located within the two highest-elevation strata where Red-legged Kittiwakes nest at extremely high densities (Hickey and Craighead 1977). In particular, the corrected 1976 census total (Table 1.5) underestimated the number of Red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island because “white birds” were difficult to identify (and count) in photographs of high-elevation cliffs (pers. obs.) where Red-legged Kittiwakes were concentrated. In contrast, the corrected 1976 census total for Black-legged Kittiwakes is likely a better

estimate because “white birds” were readily identified in photographs of lower-elevation cliffs where the bulk of the Black-legged Kittiwake population on St. George Island was located (Hickey and Craighead 1977).

Land-based census counts in 1995 on St. George Island were the highest recorded since the early-1980's for both kittiwake species (Figure 1.3). The superior fit of quadratic vs. linear regression models to data from land-based censuses suggests that census trends were not monotonic for either kittiwake species. Counts of both species declined by approximately 40 % between 1976 and the late-1980's, but have stabilized since then.

Trends in whole-island and land-based censuses should be interpreted with caution because attendance counts are not a direct measure of population size and variation in attendance has been documented at within-day (Byrd 1989, Hickey and Craighead 1977, Troy and Baker 1985), within-season (Troy and Baker 1985), and inter-annual time scales (Hatch and Hatch 1988, Murphy et al. 1991). Although census protocols established by the USFWS for St. George Island restrict counts to time periods when both within-day and among-day variation in kittiwake attendance is minimized, attendance is sensitive to a number of factors that cannot be controlled (e.g. reproductive performance, weather) and which may vary independent of the size of the breeding population. Furthermore, census counts are also affected by the number of subadult birds in adult plumage, and factors that influence the proportion of the breeding population that make no attempt to breed in a given year.

Kittiwake attendance may have differed among census years because the reproductive performance of kittiwakes has been highly variable over the past 20 year (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996): kittiwakes may exhibit reduced and highly variable attendance in the late incubation stage of the breeding cycle in years of reproductive failure (Murphy et al. 1991) because the activity patterns of kittiwakes with active nests differ from that of failed breeders (Hatch and Hatch 1988). Kittiwake attendance may have also differed among census years because the breeding chronology of kittiwakes has

advanced by three weeks relative to the timing of census counts (Figure 1.5). If there is a consistent seasonal trend in kittiwake attendance on St. George Island, then the advancement of the relative timing of kittiwake censuses could generate a spurious trend in whole-island and land-based censuses. Although there were insufficient data to statistically evaluate seasonal trends in census counts, census data from replicated land-based plots on St. George Island do not suggest a consistent seasonal trend for either species over the past 20 years (Figures 1.6, 1.7).

Evidence for population declines of kittiwakes on St. George Island is largely dependent on unreplicated land-based census counts that were conducted in 1976; however, I argue that the 40 % reduction in kittiwake counts between 1976 and the mid 1980's could not have been an artifact of the lack of replication of the land-based census in 1976. To begin with, effects of among-day variability in nest attendance on census totals was dampened because, though unreplicated, counts of different plots were distributed over several different days. Furthermore, the average CV of counts of Red-legged Kittiwakes (8.3 %) and Black-legged Kittiwakes (12 %) for 2 land-based census plots that were replicated in 1976 (Figure 1.8; J. Hickey, unpublished data) was comparable to the average CV of replicated counts for land-based plots in other years (7.7 %). A CV of 7.7 correspond to a 95 % confidence interval of 15.4 %, a figure that is less than half the magnitude of the decline observed between 1976 and the late-1980's. Finally, replicated counts of 2 census plots in both 1975 and 1976 further suggest that kittiwake numbers in 1976 were not artificially inflated: counts were similar between years (Figure 1.8; J. Hickey, unpublished data).

Censusing Kittiwakes from Photographs

The greatest limitation to census work on St. George Island is the unpredictability of the weather. On any given day, dense fog can abruptly terminate census work in mid-count, particularly at higher elevation areas of the island that are critical census areas for Red-legged Kittiwakes. Censusing kittiwakes from photographs would make the most of

ephemeral windows of favorable weather conditions because photographing census plots requires only a fraction of the amount of time needed to conduct direct counts of kittiwakes in the field. I found negligible difference between direct counts of kittiwakes on land-based census plots and counts determined from photographs; thus, I conclude that a photographic approach is a time-efficient back-up method for censusing kittiwakes on St. George Island.

Recommendations for Future Censuses

I recommend the following modifications for future whole-island censuses of kittiwakes on St. George Island: a) be obsessive about the sharpness of focus when using a Pentax 6x7 camera with a 300 mm lens and maximum aperture setting, because the depth of field is extremely shallow; b) use slower film (200 ASA), a shutter speed of 1/500th of a second, and a shorter lens (200 mm) to take photographs that each cover an area of roughly 150 m x 150 m: this revised census protocol would reduce the number of photographs needed to cover the island and the amount of time needed to overlap and mark census boundaries on photographs without appreciably reducing the resolution of photographs; c) better standardize the boat-cliff distance by using a more accurate range finder; and d) replicate photographs of a sample of cliff around the perimeter of the island to determine a measure of temporal variability in kittiwake attendance that could be applied to whole-island population totals.

For land-based census work I recommend that a photographic census be integrated with the conventional direct census of high-elevation plots. When a window of visibility opens at high elevation, the fastest hiker of the census crew should initially photograph all census plots at high-elevation and at the same time count the relatively few Black-legged Kittiwakes on those plots. In the event that the window of visibility closes before direct counts can be made, a census of kittiwakes could thereby be completed from photographs. At present, data needed to evaluate the interactive effects of reproductive performance and census timing on patterns of kittiwake attendance are

lacking. To better interpret the trends in kittiwake populations on St. George Island that have occurred over the past 20 years requires data from many years in which kittiwake counts are replicated over a broad seasonal window. I recommend that these data be collected each year on St. George Island as part of the standard field procedures.

For both whole-island and land-based censuses I recommend that the timing of murre and kittiwake censuses be uncoupled in years when the breeding chronology of kittiwakes is exceptionally early (mean hatch date < July 15). Although no consistent seasonal trend in kittiwake attendance was observed in replicated census data for the past 20 years, kittiwake censuses should not be conducted beyond 14 days of the mean date of hatch to better standardize the relative timing of censuses.

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Table 1.1. Correction factors for observability bias on whole-island census photos. Data for 24 close-up photos (see text).

Census Photo	Photo Clarity	Truth Photo	Kittiwake Count (k)	Fulmar Count (f)	Missed Kittiwakes (x)	Fulmars Misidentified as Kittiwakes (fm)	Kittiwakes Misidentified as Fulmars (km)	Total Missed Kittiwakes (xkm)	Total Kittiwakes (K)	Total Fulmars (F)
m49-4	sharp	c4-11	79	11	2	0	0	2	81	11
m49-4	sharp	c4-12	90	34	0	0	0	0	90	34
m49-4	sharp	c4-13	63	51	1	3	0	1	61	54
m49-5	sharp	c4-14	47	60	1	3	1	2	46	62
m49-5	sharp	c4-15	50	36	2	2	1	3	51	37
m52-25	sharp	m52-17	62	88	5	8	1	6	60	95
m52-25	sharp	m52-19	60	19	3	0	0	3	63	19
m52-25	sharp	m52-20	30	32	1	3	0	1	28	35
Totals for "Sharp" Photographs					(n = 8)	Tfm = 19		Txkm = 18	TK = 480	TF = 347
m42-2	good	c4-0	29	12	7	0	0	7	36	12
m42-2	good	c4-1	21	44	1	0	0	1	22	44
m42-2	good	c4-2	21	53	2	0	0	2	23	53
m42-2	good	c4-3	0	31	1	3	0	1	1	34
m42-2	good	c4-4	1	20	2	2	0	2	3	22
m42-2	good	c4-5	21	28	8	1	1	9	29	28
m42-2	good	c4-6	42	53	4	4	0	4	42	57
m42-2	good	c4-7	6	42	1	0	0	1	7	42
m49-7	good	c4-22	151	63	19	5	2	21	167	66
m49-7	good	c4-23	98	35	9	1	1	10	107	35
m49-7	good	c4-24	153	22	24	0	1	25	178	21
m52-21	good	m52-11	23	22	4	4	0	4	23	26
m52-21	good	m52-13	66	102	4	1	1	5	70	102
m52-22	good	m52-14	58	79	2	4	0	2	56	83
m52-22	good	m52-15	61	60	10	2	0	10	69	62
m52-22	good	m52-16	29	69	1	4	0	1	26	73
Totals for "Good" Photographs					(n = 16)	Tfm = 31		Txkm = 105	TK = 859	TF = 760

Correction factors were calculated separately from the above data for "sharp" and "good" photographs using a cluster sampling procedure for proportions (Scheaffer et al. 1986):

$PK = Txkm / TK =$ proportion of mis-classified kittiwakes.

$PF = Tfm / TF =$ proportion of fulmars mis-classified as kittiwakes.

and:

Variance of $PK = VPK = (SE_{PK})^2 = (1 / (n (TK / n)^2)) (\sum (xkm - PK(K))^2 / (n - 1))$

Variance of $PF = VPF = (SE_{PF})^2 = (1 / (n (TF / n)^2)) (\sum (fm - PF(F))^2 / (n - 1))$

Raw kittiwake counts for whole-island census photographs (in Appendix A) were adjusted by the above correction factors using the following general equation:

$Kc = Kr + (Kr(PK) / (1 - PK)) - (Fr(PF) / (1 - PF)) =$ Adjusted kittiwake count

where:

Kr = raw kittiwake count on census photograph (from Appendix A).

Fr = raw fulmar count on census photograph (from Appendix A).

and, using the "Delta Method" (Seber 1982):

Variance of $Kc = (((Kr / (1 - PK))^2) VPK) + (((Fr / (1 - PF))^2) VPF)$

Table 1.2. Raw counts from whole-island census photographs. Counts were pooled within 16 subsections of cliff (see Figure 1.1), adjusted for observability bias, then partitioned into Red-legged (RLKI) and Black-legged (BLKI) Kittiwake fractions using the proportion of each species within each section of cliff from Appendix C.

Area	Tier ^a	n	Raw Count	Adjusted count		RLKI		BLKI	
				Total	SE	Total	SE	Total	SE
Village	1	60	2076	2331	6.5	896	119.1	1435	119.2
First Bluff		1	25	3937	4131	17.5	3123	211.6	1009
	2	13	2736	2839	13.2	2238	140.1	601	140.6
High Bluff	1	53	6629	7231	20.6	3792	407.7	3440	407.7
	2	69	29245	32493	64.5	27653	828.1	4841	826.3
	3	74	56421	63324	135.2	60530	568.8	2794	553.9
Needle Rock	1	52	12098	13364	32.5	5399	855.6	7966	855.7
	2	38	13906	15644	71.1	13961	452.1	1683	447.7
Dalnoi	1	26	2034	2248	9.1	1076	148.5	1172	148.5
	2	25	11248	12414	41.9	10772	274.6	1642	272.3
Fox Castle	1	49	3394	3662	13.8	1754	218.6	1909	218.7
	2	44	7681	8553	37.3	7182	298.4	1371	296.8
Zapadni	1	48	1292	1405	5.6	800	72.0	605	72.0
Red Bluff	1	99	12782	14053	31.4	8431	630.8	5623	630.7
Garden Cove	1	121	13594	14577	34.8	7494	873.3	7083	873.3
Tolstoi	1	58	4188	4600	15.2	1802	393.1	2798	393.2
Whole-Island Totals			183 261	202 875	188 ^b	156 902	1935 ^b	45 972	1929 ^b

^a 1 = 0 - 91.5 m ASL, 2 = 91.5 - 183 m ASL, 3 = > 183 m ASL.

^b Total SE = $(\sum SE^2)^{0.5}$

Table 1.3. Species composition of land-based census plots. Counts of adult kittiwakes on 54 land-based census plots and counts of kittiwake nests on 372 nest-mapping plots were used to determine the proportion of Red-legged (RLKI) and Black-legged (BLKI) Kittiwakes within 16 sections of cliff comprising the perimeter of St. George Island.

Area	Tier	Adult census data			Nest-mapping data			Pooled data		Proportions		
		n	RLKI	BLKI	n	RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI	SE
Village	1	3	566	1005	48	308	395	874	1400	0.384	0.616	0.051
First Bluff	1	1	34	14	11	144	44	178	58	0.756	0.244	0.051
	2	2	80	9	22	324	100	404	109	0.788	0.212	0.049
High Bluff	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	445 ^a	368 ^a	0.524	0.476	0.056
	2	-	-	-	1	18	10	1141 ^a	168 ^a	0.851	0.149	0.025
	3	7	1943	922	126	4443	203	6386	295	0.956	0.044	0.008
Needle Rock	1	-	-	-	19	183	270	183	270	0.404	0.596	0.064
	2	-	-	-	37	821	99	821	99	0.892	0.108	0.029
Dalnoi	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	289 ^b	278 ^b	0.479	0.521	0.066
	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1461 ^b	221 ^b	0.868	0.132	0.022
Fox Castle	1	-	-	-	4	65	0	289 ^c	278 ^c	0.479	0.521	0.060
	2	-	-	-	41	681	130	681	130	0.840	0.160	0.035
Zapadni	1	14	41	4	-	-	-	457 ^d	401 ^d	0.570	0.430	0.051
Red Bluff	1	16	212	171	32	204	186	638 ^e	434 ^e	0.600	0.400	0.045
	2	2	27	9	17	195	68					
Garden Cove	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	884 ^f	868 ^f	0.514	0.486	0.060
Tolstoi	1	9	144	356	14	148	98	292	454	0.392	0.609	0.085

^a Includes First Bluff and Needle Rock data.

^b Includes Needle Rock and Fox Castle data.

^c Includes Needle Rock and Zapadni data.

^d Includes Red Bluff and Fox Castle data from.

^e Teirs 1 and 2 pooled for census purposes.

^f Includes Red Bluff and Tolstoi data.

Table 1.4. Elevational stratification of kittiwakes within St. George Island. The density of Red-legged (RLKI) and Black-legged (BLKI) Kittiwakes within 3 elevational tiers is presented for whole-island censuses in 1976 and 1995.

Tier ^a	Area ^b (ha)	1976 CENSUS				1995 CENSUS			
		Count Totals ^c		Density ^c (#/ha)		Count Totals		Density (#/ha)	
		RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI
1	278.9	65,430	68,270	239	241	34,567	33,039	124	118
2	94.2	66,767	10,718	709	114	61,805	10,139	556	108
3	26.6	38,032	2,735	1430	103	60,530	2,794	2277	105

^a 1 = 0 - 91.5 m ASL, 2 = 91.5 - 183 m ASL, 3 = > 183 m ASL.

^b Determined from distance and elevation measurements from a detailed topographic map of St. George Island.

^c Computed from corrected census totals (see text) for 1976 (Table 1.5).

Table 1.5. Original and corrected whole-island census totals for kittiwakes on St. George Island in 1976. Original data for Red-legged (RLKI) and Black-legged (BLKI) Kittiwakes were obtained directly from Hickey and Craighead (1977). Corrected totals were calculated using cliff-area measurements that were determined from a detailed topographic map of St. George Island, and using kittiwakes densities that were adjusted to remove bias due to image compression in census photos of higher-elevation cliffs (see Fig. 1.2).

ORIGINAL CENSUS DATA FOR 1976							
Strata ^a	Length (km)	Width (m)	Area (ha)	Density (#/ha)		Total	
				RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI
1	48.7	34.0	162.5	176.7	291.1	28,714	47,304
2	33.5	30.5	102.2	396.7	115.5	40,543 ^b	11,804
3	14.4	30.5	43.9	1078.8	112.2	47,359	4,926
4	5.3	61.0	32.3	1505.5	172.2	48,628	5,562
5	4.2	30.5	12.8	5450.0	147.7	69,760	1,891
Original Whole-Island Totals						235,004 ^c	71,487 ^c
CORRECTED CENSUS DATA FOR 1976							
Strata ^a	Length (km)	Width (m)	Area ^d (ha)	Density (#/ha)		Total	
				RLKI	BLKI	RLKI	BLKI
1	40.3	51.0	205.5	176.7	291.1	36,312	59,822
2	26.6	46.8	124.5	396.7	115.5	49,389	14,330
3	11.4	37.8	43.1	1078.8	112.2	47,496	4,836
4	3.6	54.2	19.5	940.9	107.6	18,348	2,099
5	2.8	25.4	7.1	2369.5	64.2	16,823	456
Corrected Whole-Island Totals						168,368	81,543

^a 1 = 0 - 61 m ASL, 2 = 61 - 122 m ASL, 3 = 122 - 183 m ASL, 4 = 183 - 244 m ASL, 5 > 244 m ASL.

^b The original figure presented in Hickey and Craighead (1977), 28,148, was computed incorrectly (see text).

^c Figures differ from those presented in Hickey and Craighead (1977) because of ^b and rounding differences.

^d Area computed from distance and elevation measurements taken from a detailed topographic map of St. George Island.

^e Kittiwake density corrected for image compression in higher-elevation census photos (see Fig. 1.2).

Table 1.6. An estimate of the global breeding population of Red-legged Kittiwakes.

Colony	Estimated Breeding Population	Year of Estimate	Source
Pribilof Islands			
St. George Is.	193,930 ^a	1995	This Study
St. Paul Is.	782 ^b	1992	Hunt (1977), Climo (1993)
Otter Is.	2,000 ^c	1993	Byrd et al. (1997)
Buldir Island	9,350 ^c	1993	Byrd et al. (1997)
Bogoslof Islands	654 ^c	1993	Byrd and Williams (1994)
Commander Islands	32,344 ^c	1993	Byrd et al. (1997)
TOTAL POPULATION	239,060		

^a Breeding population determined from a whole-island count of Red-legged Kittiwakes (156,902 individuals) that was converted to a nest-census equivalent by multiplying the total by the average ratio of nests/adults (0.618) observed in recent land-based censuses (see text).

^b Breeding population determined by discounting a nest census (850 nests) that was conducted in 1976 (Hunt 1977) by a 54% reduction in counts of kittiwakes that occurred between 1976 and 1992 on land-based census plots on St. Paul Island (Climo 1993).

^c Breeding population determined by multiplying a whole-island nest count by 2.

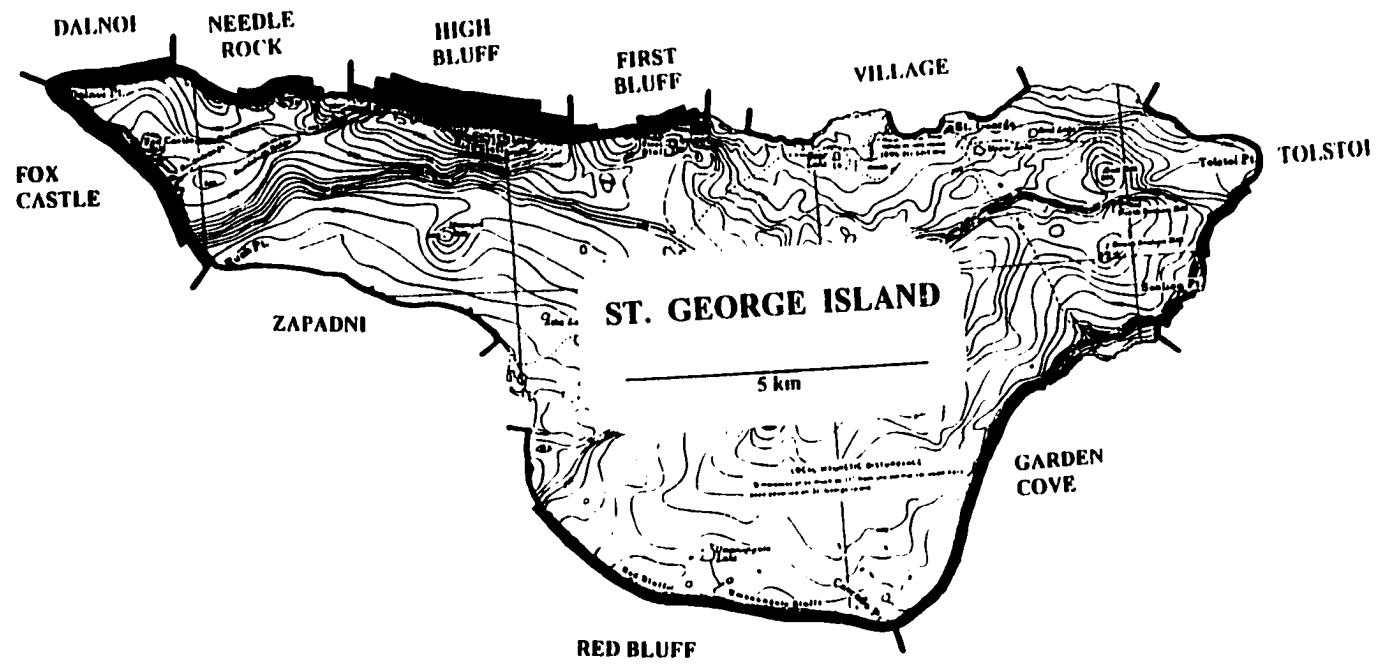


Figure 1.1. Cliff sections delineated on St. George Island, Alaska. The relative thickness of the black bar around the perimeter of the island corresponds to cliff height (in 61 m increments).

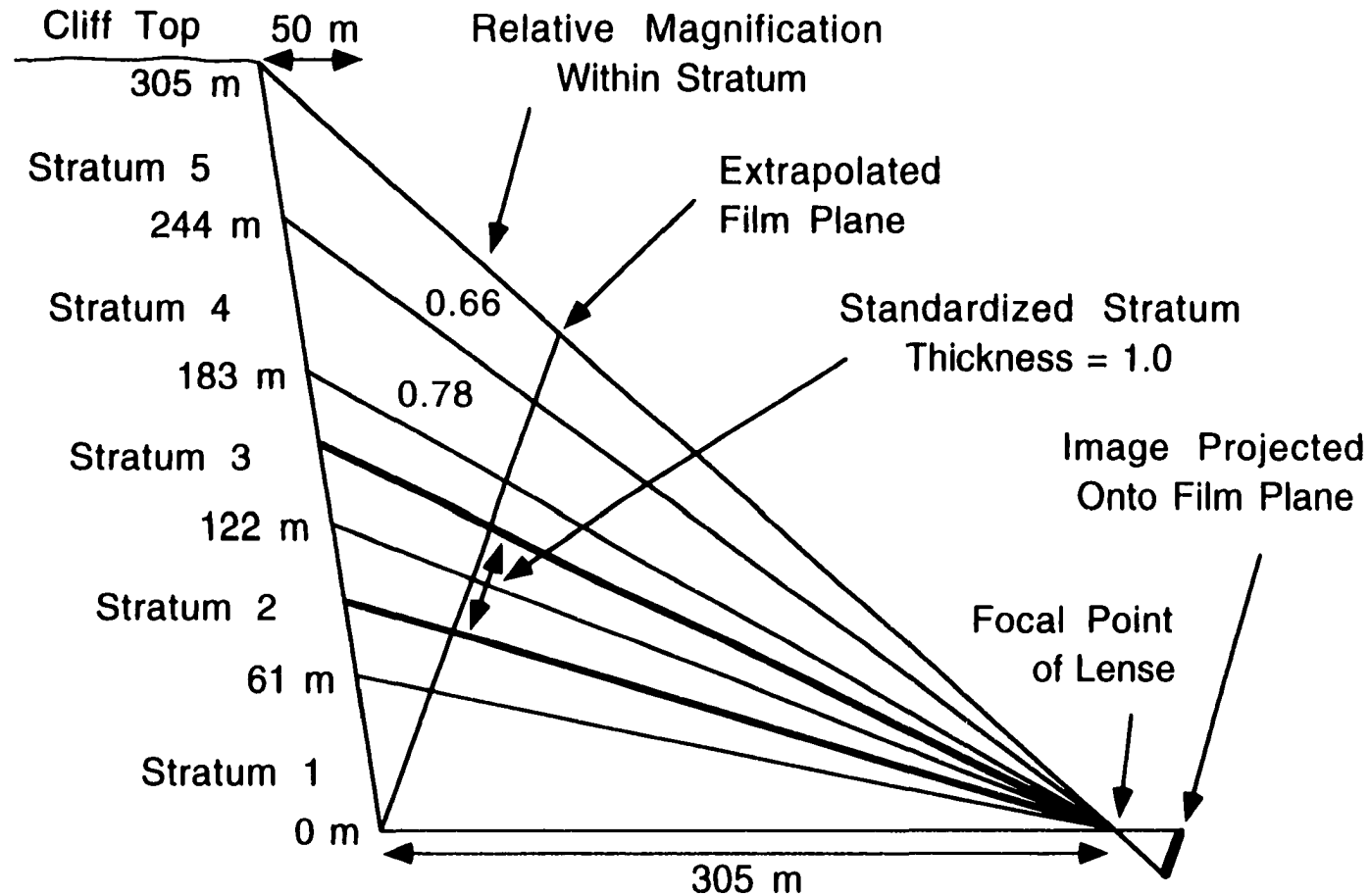


Figure 1.2. Image compression in photos of high-elevation cliffs. Boat distance and cliff height estimated to be 305 m, with the cliff top displaced 50 m back from vertical. Relative Magnification determined by comparing distance occupied on the projected film plane against a centrally located standardized stratum. Correction factors applied to bird densities were computed by squaring apparent stratum thickness to convert it from a linear measurement to a two-dimensional surface area measurement.

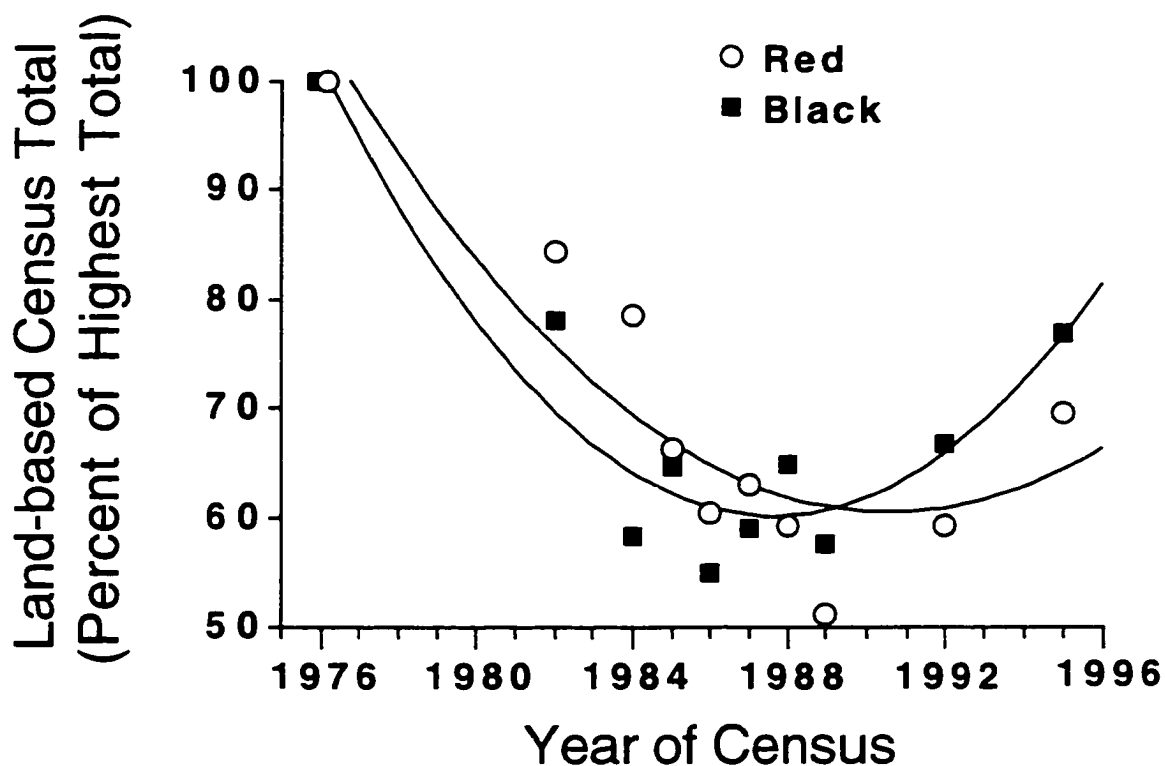


Figure 1.3. Population trends of kittiwakes on St. George Island. Counts of Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) kittiwakes on 50 land-based census plots (plot #33 excluded, see text) presented as a percentage of the 1976 total. Quadratic regression lines are shown. Data from the following sources: 1976, Hickey and Craighead (1977); 1982, Craighead and Oppenheim (1985); 1984, Troy and Baker (1985); 1985-1992, Dragoo and Sundseth (1993); and Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (unpublished data).

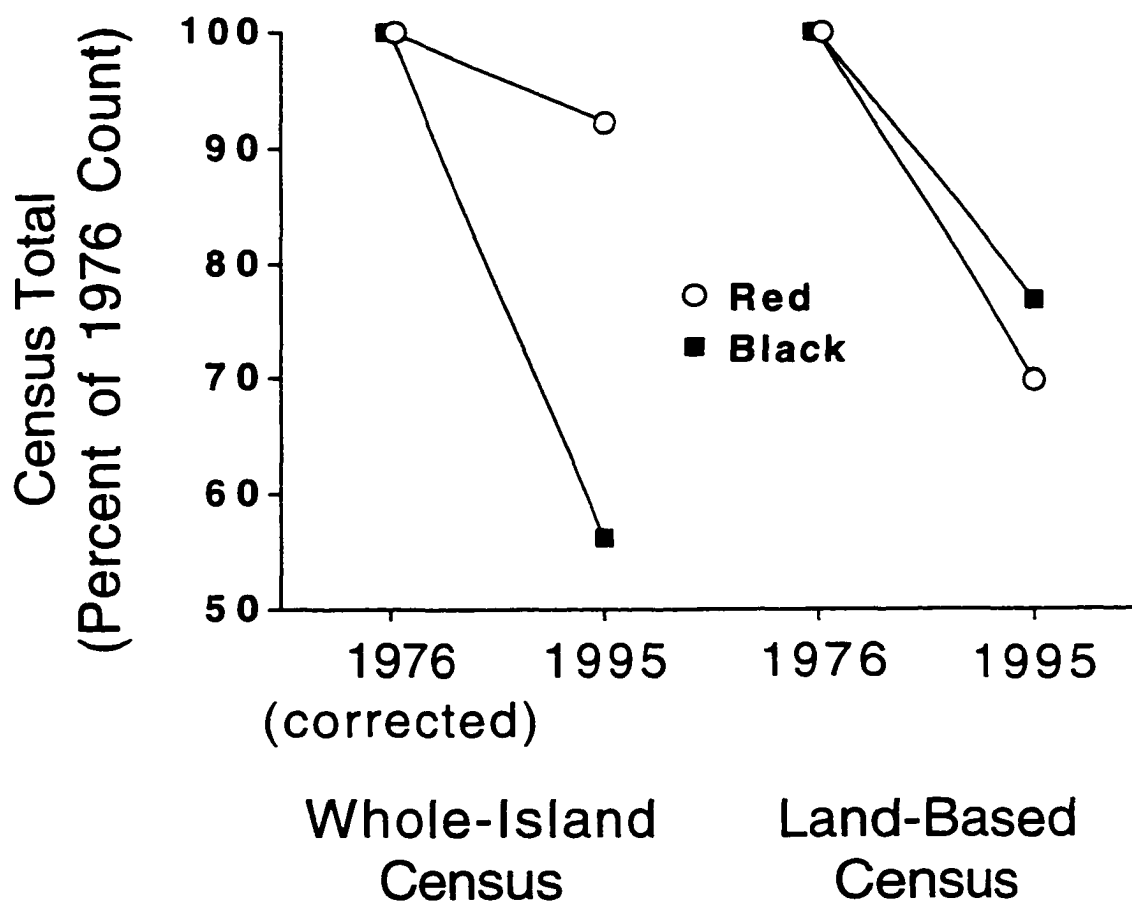


Figure 1.4. Population trends of kittiwakes for whole-island and land-based counts. Count totals Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) kittiwakes are expressed as percentages of 1976 counts.

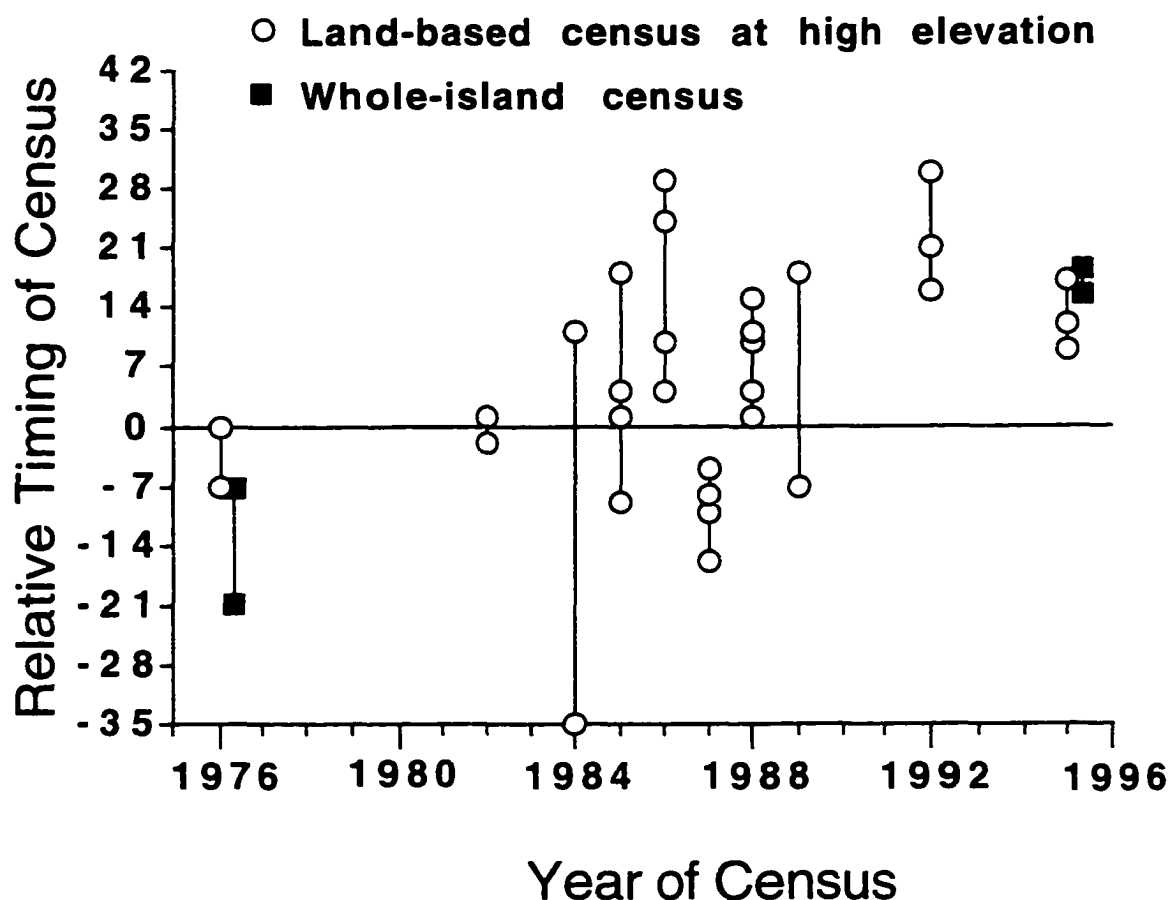


Figure 1.5. Timing of kittiwake censuses on St. George Island. Relative to the breeding chronology of Red-legged Kittiwakes (0 = mean hatch data), land-based counts were conducted approximately 2 weeks later in 1995 than in 1976, and whole-island counts were conducted approximately 4 weeks later in 1995 than in 1976. Points plotted prior to 1984 represent the census interval rather than specific dates. Sources for census dates cited in Figure 1.3 and from unpublished data. Hatch dates for Red-legged Kittiwakes are summarized in Dragoo and Dragoo (1996), Craighead and Oppenheim (1985), and Johnson and Baker (1985). Hatch dates for 1988, 1989 are from Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (unpublished data).

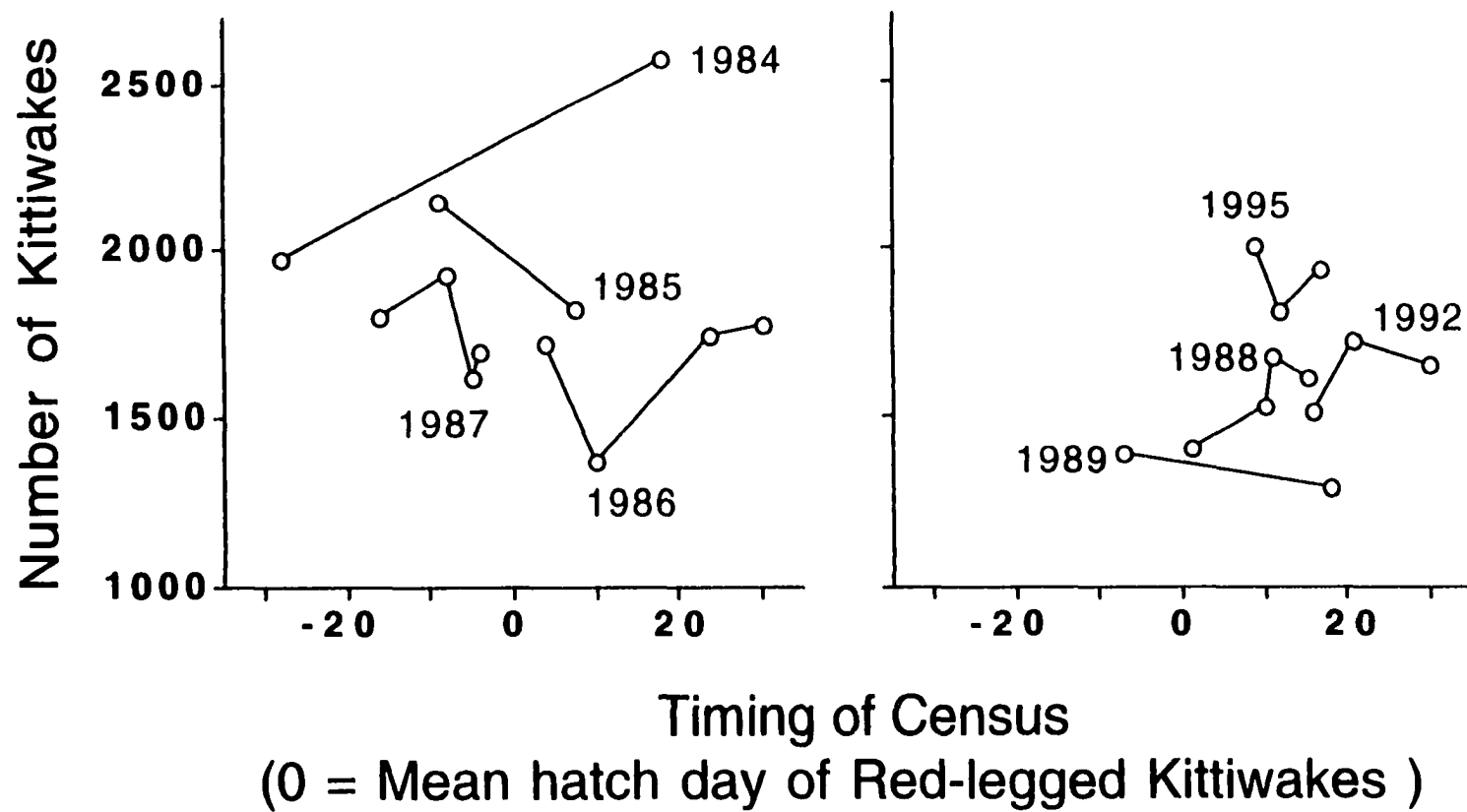


Figure 1.6. Seasonal trends in the attendance of Red-legged Kittiwakes. Data from land-based census plots for years in which counts were replicated. Counts are for "common plots" (see text) at High Bluff and comprise approximately 80% of the land-based census total.

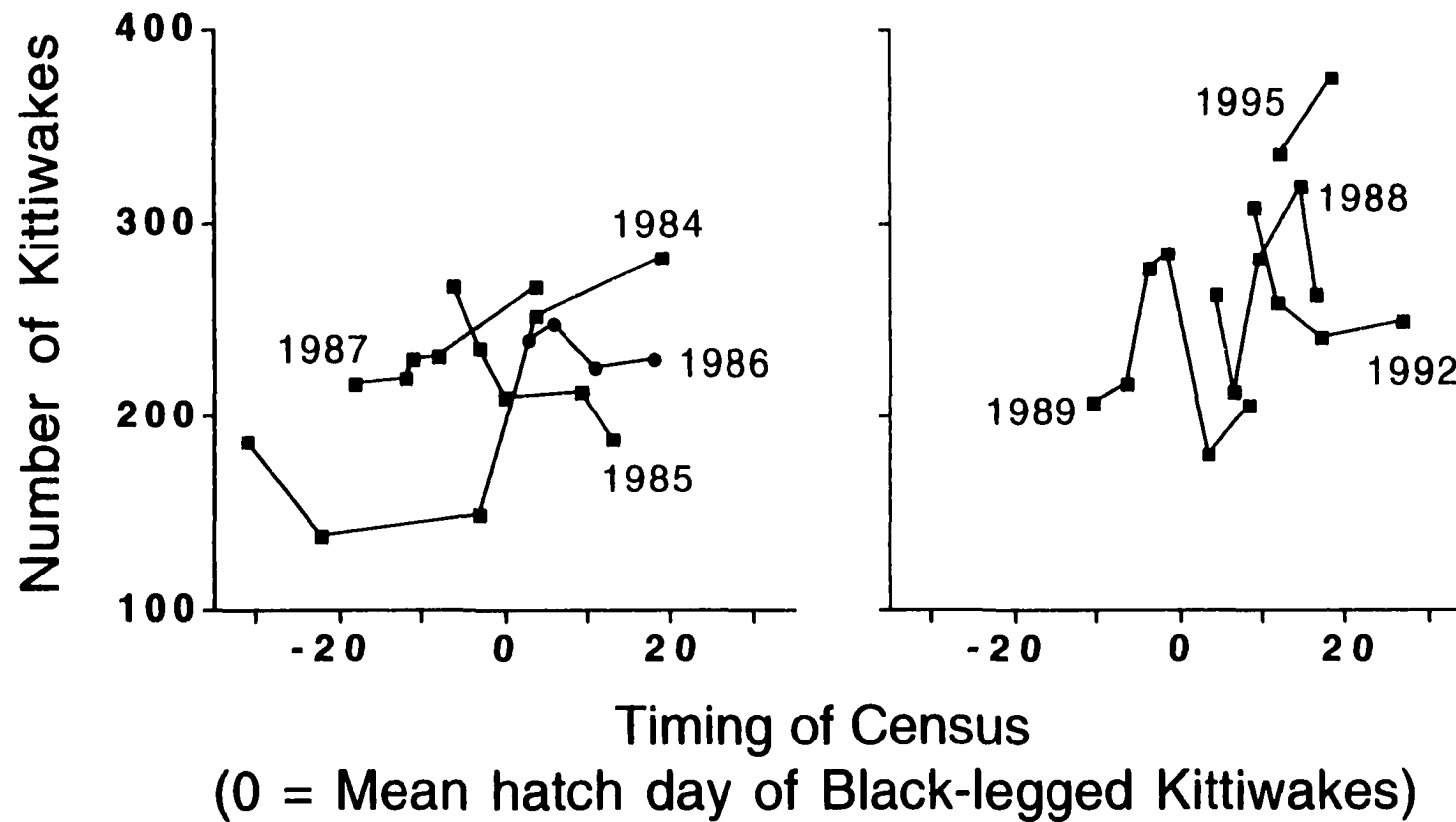


Figure 1.7. Seasonal trends in the attendance of Black-legged Kittiwakes. Data from land-based census plots for years in which counts were replicated. Counts of Black-legged Kittiwakes are for "common plots" (see text) at Tolstoi and comprise approximately 55% of the land-based census total.

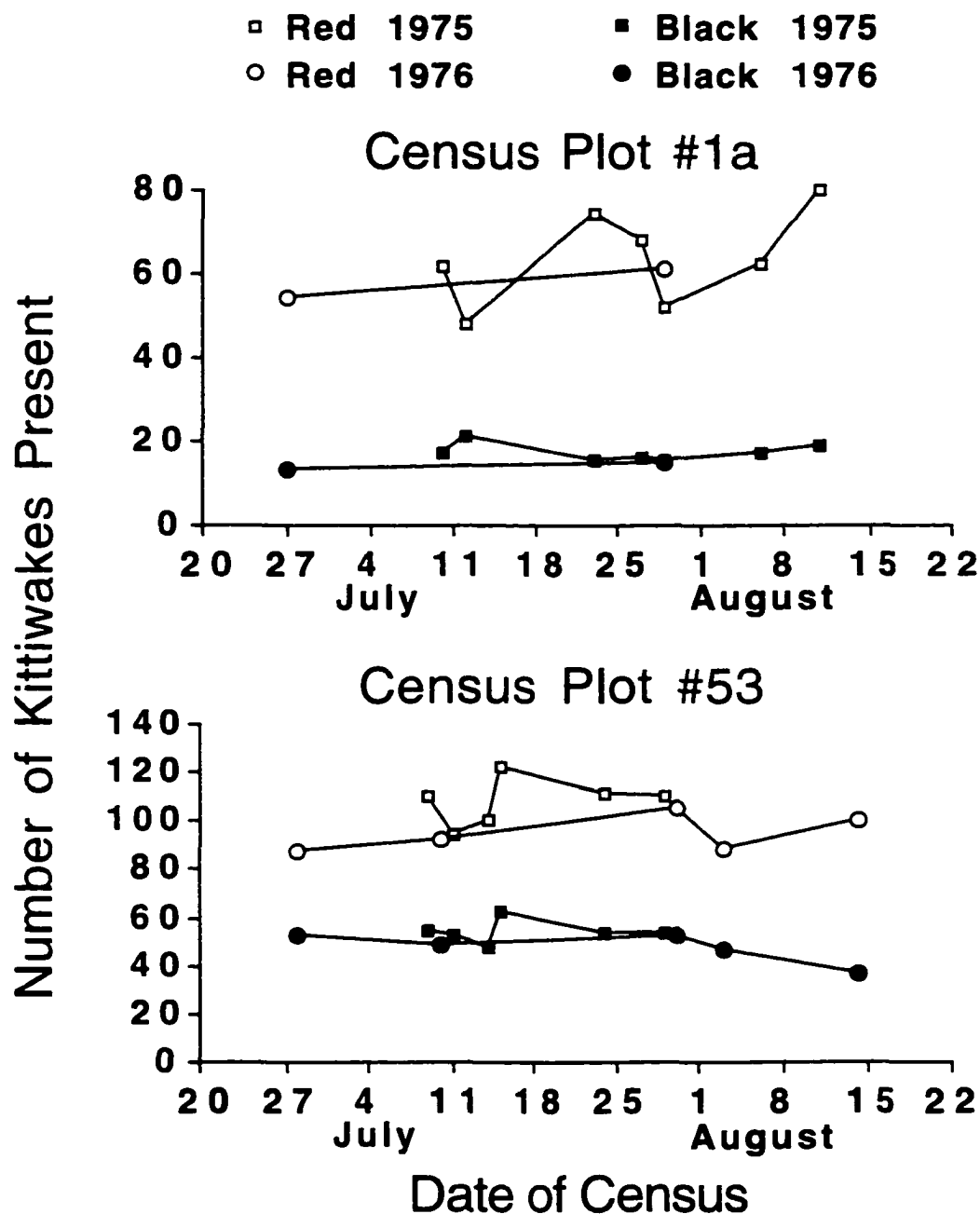


Figure 1.8. Replicated counts of kittiwakes in 1975 and 1976. Counts of Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) kittiwakes for two land-based census plots (1a and 53) that were replicated in 1975 and 1976. Counts are similar between 1975 and 1976 and there was no apparent seasonal trend in kittiwake numbers within either year.

COMPETITIVE DISPLACEMENT? AN EXPERIMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF NEST-SITE PREFERENCES OF CLIFF-NESTING GULLS²

ABSTRACT

Red-legged (*Rissa brevirostris*) and Black-legged Kittiwakes (*R. tridactyla*) are colonial seabirds that nest interspersed on cliffs of St. George Island, Alaska, where they potentially compete for nesting ledges. Nesting ledges used by Red-legged Kittiwakes are narrower than those of Black-legged Kittiwakes, are more often located beneath overhangs, and are concentrated on high-elevation cliffs of St. George Island. To determine if the nesting distribution of Red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island is shaped by competitive displacement by larger-bodied Black-legged Kittiwakes, I compared realized niches of the two species (determined by measuring physical characteristics of natural nest sites) with fundamental niches of the two species (determined by observing nest-site preferences of kittiwakes on artificial nesting ledges that differed in width, overhang cover, and elevation).

The displacement hypothesis predicted that interspecific overlap in physical characteristics of nest sites would be greater for artificial vs. natural nesting ledges (fundamental niches would overlap to a greater degree than realized niches). In contrast, nest-site preferences of kittiwakes on artificial ledges differed markedly between species and mirrored characteristics of natural nest sites: Red-legged Kittiwakes preferred narrower ledges, Black-legged Kittiwakes preferred wider ledges, and both species preferred ledges located within high density clusters of conspecifics. Thus, I rejected the competitive displacement hypothesis and concluded that interspecific competition does not currently shape the breeding distributions of kittiwakes on St. George Island. Although interspecific competition in the past may have shaped current nest site

² Prepared for submission to *Ecology* as: Kildaw, S. D. Competitive Displacement? An Experimental Assessment of Nest-site Preferences of Cliff-nesting Gulls.

preferences of kittiwakes, the concordance of habitat preferences with interspecific differences in body size, clutch size, and nest size and structure indicate that Red-legged Kittiwakes are uniquely adapted to exploit small ledges.

INTRODUCTION

Cliff-nesting seabirds commonly breed in mixed-species colonies within which they potentially compete for nest sites. Lack (1968) proposed that where seabirds are not food-limited, nesting habitat would become limiting and promote competition both within and among species for preferred nest sites. Although general availability of nest sites may be rarely limiting to seabirds (Furness and Birkhead 1984, Olsthoorn and Nelson 1990, Wittenburger and Hunt 1985), preferred nest sites within colonies may, nonetheless, be highly contested and limited (Ashmole 1962, Porter and Coulson 1987). Furthermore, both direct observations of competitive displacement (Belopol'skii 1957, Kenyon and Phillips 1965, Maunder and Threlfall 1972, Uspenski 1956) and observations of niche partitioning among species of cliff-nesting seabirds (Lack 1968, Nelson 1970, Squibb and Hunt 1983, Williams 1974) suggest that interspecific competition may control nesting habitat used by seabirds.

Kittiwakes (*Rissa* spp.) are small, fish-eating, gulls that avoid terrestrial and aerial predators by breeding in loose aggregations on sea-side cliffs where they construct nests of mud and vegetation on projecting rock ledges (Cullen 1957). Red-legged (*R. brevirostris*) and Black-legged (*R. tridactyla*) kittiwakes share the basalt cliffs of St. George Island, Alaska, with Thick-billed (*Uria lomvia*) and Common (*U. aalge*) murre. Northern Fulmars (*Fulmarus glacialis*), and Red-faced Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax urile*). Relative to Black-legged Kittiwakes, Red-legged Kittiwakes nest on narrower ledges, use ledges that are more often located beneath overhanging rocks, and nest at extremely high density in high-elevation cliffs of St. George Island (Squibb and Hunt 1983, Hickey and Craighead 1977, Kildaw 1998). Although the two species are ecologically similar, they differ in three fundamental ways: 1) nests of Red-legged

Kittiwakes are smaller than those of Black-legged Kittiwakes (Byrd and Williams 1993) and are more adhesive because they are composed of a greater proportion of mud (Squibb and Hunt 1983); 2) Red-legged Kittiwakes are 15% lighter than Black-legged Kittiwakes (Byrd and Williams 1993) and are the smallest of all cliff-nesting species on St. George Island (Squibb and Hunt 1983); 3) Red-legged Kittiwakes rarely lay more than one egg, while clutches of two eggs are common for Black-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island (Byrd and Williams 1993).

Although anecdotal observations indicate that both species have co-occurred throughout the range of the Red-legged Kittiwake since the late 1800's and that the distribution of Red-legged Kittiwakes was once more widespread than it is at present (Byrd and Williams 1993), little is known about the evolutionary history of the two species (Byrd and Williams 1993, Baird 1994) or the degree to which interspecific competition affects breeding distributions of kittiwakes on St. George Island. On the other hand, two observations suggest that competitive displacement by Black-legged Kittiwakes may shape nesting habitat used by Red-legged Kittiwakes: 1) characteristics of nest sites used by Red-legged Kittiwakes overlap to a greater degree with those of Black-legged Kittiwakes than with any other cliff-nesting species on St. George Island (Squibb and Hunt 1983); 2) anecdotal observations of aggressive encounters between species suggest that larger-bodied Black-legged Kittiwakes may be dominant over Red-legged Kittiwakes (Byrd and Williams 1993, Kenyon and Phillips 1965).

Understanding the nature of competitive interactions between kittiwake species on St. George Island has conservation implications for the Red-legged Kittiwake, a Bering Sea endemic that breeds at only four known locations (Byrd et al. 1997). The Red-legged Kittiwake is currently a species of concern because approximately 80% its global population breeds on St. George Island (Kildaw 1998), where, for unknown reasons, both kittiwake species experienced a decade of poor reproductive performance during the 1980's, and a 50% decline in population between 1976 and the mid 1980's (Dragoo and Sundseth 1993).

For kittiwakes, acquiring a breeding territory and acquiring food are spatially separate processes: hence, competition among kittiwakes for nesting ledges is purely one for space. In biological systems where space is a contested resource, competitive displacement can be inferred by comparing habitat occupied by a species when its competitors are present, with habitat preferred by a species when its competitors are absent (i.e., its realized vs. its fundamental niche). In other field studies, researchers have used a comparative approach (e.g. Williams 1974) or removal experiments (e.g., Connell 1961) to observe habitat preferences (the fundamental niche) of a species in the absence of its competitors. I was unable to use either of those approaches, and instead, performed a resource-addition experiment to determine habitat preferences of kittiwakes on St. George Island in the absence of competition.

The purpose of this study was to determine whether differences in physical characteristics of nest sites used by the two kittiwake species on St. George Island are a consequence of competitive displacement of Red-legged Kittiwakes to marginal nesting habitat by larger-bodied Black-legged Kittiwakes. I determined the realized niche of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes by measuring physical characteristics of natural kittiwake nest sites on St. George Island and determined habitat preferences of both species by observing their use of artificial nesting ledges that differed in width, overhang cover, and elevation. Kittiwakes colonized newly-established artificial ledges in the absence of competition because numerous unoccupied ledges were available to any individual that may have been displaced from a contested ledge. The competitive displacement hypothesis predicts that interspecific overlap in physical characteristics of nest sites will be greater for artificial vs. natural nest sites, and implies that Red-legged Kittiwakes are displaced to inferior nesting habitat and thus, when given a choice, should not prefer narrow, overhung, high-elevation ledges that they are observed to use in nature.

Previous research suggests that seabirds are attracted to high-density aggregations of conspecifics (Porter and Coulson 1987, Ashmole 1962, Duffy 1983). To investigate effects of social environment on habitat preferences of kittiwakes, I distributed artificial

ledges among areas that differed in both density and species composition of natural nest sites and predicted that kittiwakes would prefer artificial ledges located in areas where conspecifics nest at high densities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area

Field work was conducted from May-August in 1994 and 1995 on St. George Island, Alaska, the southernmost of the Pribilof Islands (56° 35' N 169° 35' W). St. George Island is located in the southeastern Bering Sea and is the site of one of the largest seabird colonies in the North Pacific, including estimated breeding populations of 194,000 Red-legged and 62,500 Black-legged Kittiwakes (Kildaw 1998).

Ledge Measurements

I accessed 225 Red-legged Kittiwake nest sites and 203 Black-legged Kittiwake nest sites using a climbing rope or ladder at 20 sampling plots on St. George Island that were not randomly selected (due to logistic constraints), but were located in representative kittiwake nesting habitat at both low and high elevation. I used methods modified from Squibb and Hunt (1983) to measure the following characteristics of each nest site:

Ledge Width (cm) = horizontal distance from base of back wall to precipice as measured through the nest center (Fig. 2.1a). Initially measured along slope of ledge in the field and later trigonometrically transformed to a horizontal distance using Ledge Slope.

Ledge Length (cm) = maximum, horizontal distance between points where ledge merges with backwall on either side of the nest site (Fig. 2.1a).

Ledge Slope (°) = angle formed between ledge surface and horizontal plane such that a ledge tilted seaward has a slope < 0° (Ledge Slope of Fig. 2.1b = -13°).

Backwall Slope (°) = angle formed between backwall surface and horizontal plane such that an overhanging backwall has a slope < 90° (Backwall Slope of Fig. 2.1b = 47°).

Enclosure = degree of sidewall protection of the nest site. Measured at nest level by horizontally spanning rock walls on either side of the nest with a 50 cm cord (centered over nest) and determining where the cord bisected the nest (Enclosure of Fig. 2.1a = 2): 1 = < half of nest is enclosed; 2 = center of nest is enclosed; 3 = entire nest is enclosed.

Backwall Height (cm) = vertical distance from a point directly beneath the nest center to the backwall (Fig. 2.1b; no measurement possible if Backwall Slope $\geq 90^\circ$).

Overhang Presence = presence (1) or absence (0) of a rock overhang < 50 cm above a point on the ledge directly beneath the nest center (calculated from Backwall Height measurement).

Standard Overhang - presence (1) or absence (0) of a rock overhang < 50 cm above a point on the ledge 10 cm from base of backwall (calculated from standardized Backwall Height measurement).

I measured Ledge Width and Ledge Length with a cord marked in 5 cm increments and measured Backwall Height with a 200-cm cord attached to a lead plumb. I measured Ledge Slope and Backwall Slope using a homemade clinometer constructed from wooden calipers, a line level, and a protractor. To facilitate comparisons between my data and those of Squibb and Hunt (1983), I generated the binary variable Overhang Presence by collapsing the continuous variable Backwall Height into two categories: < 50 cm, and ≥ 50 cm. Backwall Height and Overhang Presence are not directly comparable between species because Backwall Height was measured at the center of the nest and nest size differs between species: mean external radius of a Black-legged Kittiwake nest is 12 cm, but that of a Red-legged Kittiwake nest is only 9 cm (Byrd and Williams 1993). Using simple trigonometry, I adjusted Backwall Height measurements to a standard distance of 10 cm from the base of the backwall by assuming that surfaces of both the ledge and backwall were uniform and that Backwall Height was initially measured at either 9 cm or 12 cm from the base of the backwall (for nests of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes, respectively). I then used standardized Backwall Height measurements to generate the binary variable Standard Overhang. I do not include

Backwall Height in further analyses because it was measured only to generate Overhang Presence and Standard Overhang variables.

All measurements were somewhat imprecise because of the irregular nature of ledge surfaces. Furthermore, Width and Ledge Slope measurements were complicated by presence of nesting material on the ledge. Ledge measurements departed from those performed by Squibb and Hunt (1983) in two ways: 1) I measured Width along the slope of the ledge and trigonometrically converted it to a horizontal measurement because direct estimates of horizontal width were extremely subjective, and 2) I determined Overhang Presence from Backwall Height measurements made at the surface of the ledge, not the surface of the nest, because I measured many ledges at a stage in the breeding season when nests were not fully developed.

I compared means of seven ledge measurements between species using the normal approximation of Mann-Whitney U tests for variables that were continuously distributed and log-likelihood ratio (G) tests for variables that were ordinal. I set $\alpha = 0.05/7 = 0.0071$ for each comparison to limit experiment-wise α to no more than 0.05 in these tests. In addition, I performed a discriminant analysis on ledge variables to determine degree of multivariate separation of ledges used by Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes.

Artificial Ledges

I constructed wide artificial ledges from rough-cut "1 x 8" boards that were 20 cm wide x 2.5 cm thick x 30 cm long, and narrow artificial ledges from planed "2 x 4" boards that were 9 cm wide x 4.4 cm thick x 30 cm long. I nailed narrow and wide ledges to opposite ends of backing plates that were 20 cm wide x 2.5 cm thick x 40 cm tall, to create structures with two ledge surfaces and then painted these surfaces with a mortar-sand slurry to facilitate the adhesion of nest material to ledges. I attached each ledge structure to the cliff by rappelling down a climbing rope and using a Hilti DX350 charge-driven gun to shoot 7.3 cm - long concrete nails through the backing plate into the rock

behind it. I attached ledge structures side-by-side in complementary pairs ("clusters" hereafter): one structure with the narrow ledge oriented upper-most and the other with the wide ledge oriented upper-most. Thus, four artificial ledges were available within each ledge cluster: narrow-upper and wide-upper ledges that lacked artificial overhangs, and narrow-lower and wide-lower ledges that were located beneath upper ledges which provided partial (45%) and complete (100%) overhang coverage, respectively. I attached between 1 and 5 clusters of artificial ledges at 17 high-elevation locations and 28 low-elevation locations (ledge plots) and attached totals of 34 ledge clusters in 1994 and 88 ledge clusters in 1995. Boundaries of artificial ledge plots were defined by the boundaries of nest aggregations within which ledge clusters were established. In both years artificial ledges were attached approximately 2 - 4 weeks before egg laying was initiated by kittiwakes.

I determined the relative abundance (species composition) of natural nests of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes for each artificial ledge plot in late June (late incubation) of the year the plot was established. Ledge plots where the proportion of natural nests of Red-legged or Black-legged Kittiwakes was > 80% were considered "red-legged" or "black-legged" in species composition, respectively. Plots where the proportion of either species did not exceed 80% were considered "mixed" in species composition. Although I did not directly measure density of natural nest sites in the vicinity of artificial ledges, I subjectively assigned a density category (low or high) to each artificial ledge plot based on proximity of artificial ledges and natural nest sites. I classified a ledge plot as high density if it contained at least 10 natural nests and most artificial ledges were intermixed with natural nests. In addition, I classified plots that included > 20 natural kittiwake nests as high density even if artificial ledges on that plot were located peripherally to natural nest sites. All other artificial ledge plots were classified as low density sites. Although my density classification procedure was subjective, it accounted for marked differences among plots in density of natural nests in the immediate vicinity (< 5 m) of artificial ledges.

Nest density and species composition have the potential to confound the relationship between ledge use and elevation because both differ markedly between low-elevation, and high-elevation areas on St. George Island. Only with an adequately-replicated, three-factor experimental design would it have been possible to separate effects of elevation, nest density, and species composition on patterns of ledge use by kittiwakes. An experiment such as this, though theoretically appealing, could not be implemented in the field because all combinations of the three factors do not exist on St. George Island: few Black-legged Kittiwakes nest within high-elevation areas and few Red-legged Kittiwake areas were accessible at lower elevations. Therefore, I systematically distributed artificial ledges among plots that differed in elevation, density, and species composition in as balanced a manner as possible. Although I lacked the appropriate data for a three-factor analysis, I performed two-factor tests and controlled for effects of the third factor by restricting each analysis within a single level of the third factor.

Weather permitting, I monitored artificial ledges every 3 - 5 days between May - August in both 1994 and 1995. On each visit, I recorded developmental status of each ledge and number and species of birds present. Ledge status was categorized as one of the following: 1) Wood = no evidence of nest building; 2) Mud Roost = ranging from a small clump, to a larger unshaped mass of nest material; 3) Nest Platform = a disk of nest material that was a minimum of 15 - 20 cm in diameter and at least 5 cm thick; 4) Cup Nest = an advanced nest structure with a depression capable of holding eggs. I summarized observations for each artificial ledge by identifying the maximum stage of nest development and determining which species occupied the ledge at that time. In all analyses I only used data from ledges that attained Nest Platform status during the first summer that they were available to kittiwakes because Mud Roosts were ephemeral and only intermittently attended by kittiwakes. I also omitted data from three ledge structures that fell from the cliff during the breeding season in 1995.

Interspecific competition did not influence initial occupation of artificial ledges

because at all times kittiwakes were free to choose among ledges that differed in characteristics of width, overhang cover, elevation, density, and species composition. Throughout this paper I assume that differential use of artificial ledges by kittiwakes indicated a preference for the physical and/or social characteristics of ledges that were selected; however, sites preferred by kittiwakes within the context of this study may not be "ideal" nest sites for a given species because other factors not considered in my analysis may also shape ledge use by kittiwakes.

I used G tests to compare, both within and between species, use of ledges differing in width and overhang cover. For these analyses, I used data from only the first ledge of each cluster of four that attained a "nest platform" status because ledge options available to later-arriving kittiwakes were thereafter restricted. I also used G tests to compare width and overhang cover of natural and artificial ledges that were used by each kittiwake species. For ledge-width analyses, I generated expected frequencies by determining the proportion of natural ledges with width measurements falling above and below 17.7 cm, the midpoint between average widths of narrow (12.3 cm) and wide (23.3 cm) artificial ledges (Fig. 2.2). Expected frequencies for overhang cover were determined directly from Standard Overhang values.

For analyses that evaluated effects of elevation, density, and species composition on use of artificial ledges by kittiwakes, I considered the plot, rather than the ledge cluster, as the experimental unit. Thus, I used data from every ledge that attained "nest platform" status; however, I excluded data from ledges that were occupied under circumstances where kittiwakes were not free to choose between narrow and wide ledges within that plot (i.e., ledges occupied after all narrow or wide ledges within a plot had been occupied by kittiwakes). For each plot I determined the proportion of artificial ledges used by each species of kittiwake and compared ledge use between low-elevation plots and high-elevation plots with a Mann-Whitney U test. I further evaluated interactive effects of elevation, density, and species composition on ledge use by performing ANOVAs on rank-transformed data (because raw data did not meet

distribution assumptions of parametric tests). In a two-factor ANOVA that evaluated effects of density and species composition on ledge use by kittiwakes, I controlled for elevation by restricting the analysis to low-elevation plots only. For this analysis, I excluded data from 5 low-elevation plots that were established on barren cliff faces and hence could not be assigned a species composition category. In addition, I evaluated effects of density and elevation on ledge use by performing a two-factor ANOVA that controlled for species composition by restricting the analysis to “red-legged” plots only.

Unless otherwise specified, all statistical tests were performed using SAS 6.11 for Windows with α set at 0.05, on data pooled from both years of the study.

RESULTS

Natural Ledges

Interspecific differences in characteristics of natural ledges corresponded well with those reported by Squibb and Hunt (1983). Relative to Black-legged Kittiwakes, Red-legged Kittiwakes nested on ledges that were significantly narrower (Fig. 2.2), shorter, more enclosed, and had greater overhang cover (Table 2.1). In contrast, Ledge Slope and Backwall Slope did not differ between species (Table 2.1). Although both measures of overhang cover were significantly greater for nest sites of Red-legged Kittiwakes, the magnitude of the difference was less for Standard Overhang (0.13) than for Overhang Presence (0.25; Table 2.1). I used Standard Overhang measurements in all subsequent analyses of overhang cover because, unlike Overhang Presence, it was not biased by interspecific differences in nest size.

Despite significant interspecific differences in mean measurements of natural ledges, there was still substantial overlap in frequency distributions of ledge measurements between species (e.g., Ledge Width: Fig. 2.2; Table 2.1). Furthermore, discriminant analysis of ledge measurements indicated that there was considerable multivariate overlap in physical characteristics of natural ledges used by Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes. A cross-validation analysis of a discriminant model that

incorporated six variables (Ledge Width, Ledge Length, Ledge Slope, Backwall Slope, and Backwall Height) correctly classified 76% of Red-legged Kittiwake nesting ledges and 70% of Black-legged Kittiwake nesting ledges.

Artificial Ledges

Relative use of narrow vs. wide artificial ledges differed between species ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 43$, $P < 0.001$) and departed from unity (the null expectation) within each species: 94% of ledges used by Red-legged Kittiwakes were narrow ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 31$, $P < 0.001$), whereas 80% of ledges used by Black-legged Kittiwakes were wide ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 14$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 2.3). Relative to natural nesting ledges, Red-legged Kittiwakes used a greater proportion of narrow artificial ledges ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 9.6$, $P < 0.001$) and Black-legged Kittiwakes used a greater proportion of wide artificial ledges ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 6.1$, $P < 0.001$). Thus, interspecific overlap in ledge width was greater for natural than for artificial ledges.

Relative use of artificial ledges with and without artificial overhangs did not differ between Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 0.01$, $P = 0.9$). Both species preferred upper ledges that lacked artificial overhangs: 70% of ledges used by Red-legged Kittiwakes ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 5.3$, $P = 0.02$) and 69% of ledges used by Black-legged Kittiwakes ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 5.0$, $P = 0.03$) lacked artificial overhangs (Fig. 2.4). Although all upper artificial ledges lacked artificial overhangs, I measured a sample of 50 upper ledges and found that 15% were, by chance, located beneath natural overhangs. Therefore, I made an assumption that 15 % of upper artificial ledges used by kittiwakes also had natural overhangs and found that overhang cover did not differ between natural and artificial ledges for either Black-legged ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 0.90$, $P > 0.05$) or Red-legged Kittiwakes ($G_{1\text{ df}} = 0.88$, $P > 0.05$). Thus, interspecific overlap in overhang cover was no greater for natural than for artificial ledges.

Use of artificial ledges by both species differed significantly between high-elevation plots and plots at lower elevations. Ledge use by Red-legged Kittiwakes was significantly greater (Mann-Whitney U , $z = 2.37$, $P = 0.02$) at high elevation (Fig. 2.5). In

contrast, ledge use by Black-legged Kittiwakes was greater (Mann-Whitney U , $z = 3.00$, $P = 0.003$) at low elevation (Fig. 2.5). These analyses suggest that elevation influenced ledge use by kittiwakes but do not take into account marked differences in the density and species composition of natural nest sites that exist between high and low elevation plots. At high elevation, 15 of 17 artificial ledge plots were “red-legged” in species composition and, of these, most (9 of 15) were high-density plots. In contrast, at low elevation, only 5 of 28 plots were “red-legged” in species composition and, of these, only 2 were high-density plots.

To evaluate effects of nest density and species composition on use of artificial ledges by kittiwakes, I performed two-factor ANOVAs that controlled for elevation by restricting the analysis to low-elevation plots only. Use of artificial ledges by Red-legged Kittiwakes was greatest on plots established in areas where natural nests of Red-legged Kittiwakes occurred at high density (density, $F_{1,17\text{ df}} = 4.6$, $P = 0.05$; species, $F_{2,17\text{ df}} = 3.9$, $P = 0.04$; Fig. 2.6). There was no density x species composition interaction ($F_{2,17\text{ df}} = 1.3$, $P = 0.3$). Use of artificial ledges by Black-legged Kittiwakes was greatest in areas where Black-legged Kittiwakes nested at high density (density, $F_{1,17\text{ df}} = 8.7$, $P = 0.009$; species, $F_{2,17\text{ df}} = 6.9$, $P = 0.006$)(Fig. 2.7). A significant density x species composition interaction ($F_{2,17\text{ df}} = 4.2$, $P = 0.03$) indicted that the relationship between nest density and ledge use by Black-legged Kittiwakes differed among species composition classes: it was positive for “black-legged” plots and mixed-species plots, but was negative for “red-legged” plots.

To evaluate effects of nest density and elevation on use of artificial ledges by Red-legged Kittiwakes, I performed a two-factor ANOVA that controlled for species composition by restricting the analysis to “red-legged” plots only. Use of artificial ledges by Red-legged Kittiwakes was greater on high-density plots ($F_{1,21\text{ df}} = 66$, $P = 0.0001$), but did not differ between high-elevation and low-elevation plots ($F_{1,21\text{ df}} = 0.08$, $P = 0.77$; Fig. 2.8). In addition, the density x elevation interaction was not significant ($F_{1,21\text{ df}} = 0.26$, $P = 0.61$). Thus, my results suggest effects of density, but not elevation on ledge use by Red-legged Kittiwakes.

These results indicate that nest site selection by kittiwakes is affected by both physical (ledge width and overhang cover) and social (nest density and species composition) characteristics of nest sites. I evaluated the relative importance of physical and social characteristics of nest sites to prospecting kittiwakes by comparing percent use of artificial ledges with preferred and non-preferred physical characteristics between ledge plots with preferred and non-preferred social environments. In this analysis, I classified the social environment of an artificial ledge as “preferred” if it was located within same-species or mixed species ledge-plots where kittiwakes nested at high density. I classified the physical characteristics of a ledge as “preferred” if, for Red-legged Kittiwakes, the ledge was narrow and lacked an artificial overhang and, for Black-legged Kittiwakes, the ledge was wide and lacked an artificial overhang. I found that for both species, social factors had greater influence on ledge use than did physical characteristics (Fig. 2.9): in preferred social environments, ledges with non-preferred physical characteristics were used at a significantly greater rate than were ledges with preferred physical characteristics that were located in non-preferred social environments (Red-legged Kittiwakes, Mann-Whitney U , $z = 2.4$, $P < 0.01$; Black-legged Kittiwakes, Mann-Whitney U , $z = 2.1$, $P < 0.03$).

DISCUSSION

The competitive displacement hypothesis predicted that both kittiwake species would display a preference for wide ledges located at low elevations and that overlap of ledge characteristics of the two species would be greater for artificial vs. natural nest sites. My results contradicted these predictions: when given a choice between narrow and wide artificial ledges, Red-legged Kittiwakes preferred narrow ledges, Black-legged Kittiwakes preferred wide ledges, and overlap of ledge width between species was less for artificial than for natural nest sites. Thus, I conclude that Red-legged Kittiwakes are not competitively displaced to narrow ledges by Black-legged Kittiwakes; rather, they actively select the narrow ledges that they occupy in nature.

My measurements of the Overhang Presence of natural kittiwake nest sites (Table 2.1) were comparable to those of Squibb and Hunt (1983) and indicated a large difference in the overhang cover of nests of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes. However, Overhang Presence was measured at the center of the nest and, hence, was biased by interspecific differences in nest size. When I removed this bias and generated the variable Standard Overhang, the difference in overhang cover between kittiwake species was halved (Table 2.1). Data from artificial ledges indicated that both species avoided lower ledges with artificial overhangs (Fig. 2.4) and that overhang cover was no greater for artificial than for natural nesting ledges. Although these observations suggest that Red-legged Kittiwakes are not competitively displaced to ledges located beneath overhangs by Black-legged Kittiwakes, my results are inconclusive because the design of artificial ledge structures inextricably confounded the presence or absence of an overhang with four other characteristics of artificial ledges: (1) only lower ledges were equipped with artificial overhangs (and lower ledges may be avoided by kittiwakes for other reasons); (2) ledges with artificial overhangs were approximately 3.3 cm narrower than ledges that lacked overhangs (20.3 cm vs. 23.3 cm for wide ledges and 8.9 cm vs 12.1 cm for narrow ledges); (3) all ledges with artificial overhangs had wooden back walls while all upper ledges that lacked overhangs had natural rock back walls; and (4) 15 % of upper ledges were, by chance, located beneath rock overhangs. Thus, the apparent preference of kittiwakes for artificial ledges lacking overhangs may have arisen through the influence of these other factors and not overhang cover itself. Alternately, overhang cover may be unimportant to Red-legged Kittiwakes. If, on average, narrow ledges have greater overhang cover than wide ledges (for geological reasons), then greater overhang cover of natural ledges used by Red-legged Kittiwakes could simply be a secondary consequence of their preference for narrow ledges. Unfortunately I could not test this hypothesis because I did not measure physical characteristics of natural ledges available to kittiwakes.

Initial analyses of elevational trends in use of artificial ledges by kittiwakes

suggested that Red-legged Kittiwakes preferred artificial ledges located in high-elevation areas and that Black-legged Kittiwakes preferred artificial ledges located in low-elevation areas (Fig. 2.5). However, further analyses indicated that both species preferred artificial ledges located within plots where conspecifics nested at high density (Figs. 7 and 8) and revealed that elevational analyses were confounded by marked differences in density and species composition between high-elevation and low-elevation areas of St. George Island. Specifically, results of an elevation x density ANOVA indicated that elevation *per se* did not influence ledge use by Red-legged Kittiwakes; rather, they suggest that Red-legged Kittiwakes were attracted to artificial ledges at high elevations because conspecifics nested there at high density (Fig. 2.8). Moreover, observed differences in the elevational stratification of kittiwakes between St. George Island and Bering Island (one of the Russian Commander Islands off the coast of Kamchatka) also suggest that elevation does not influence nest-site selection by kittiwakes: on Bering Island, Red-legged Kittiwakes are more abundant at lower rather than higher elevations (A. Kondratyev, pers. comm.).

Although my results can explain the perpetuation of elevational patterns in the distribution of kittiwakes on St. George Island (high-elevation areas are disproportionately attractive to prospecting Red-legged Kittiwakes), I can only speculate about how these patterns developed in the first place. I hypothesize that differences in the elevational distribution of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes may have arisen through an interaction between nest-site preferences of kittiwakes and differences in the availability of nesting substrate between low-, and high-elevation areas. I did not measure availability of potential nesting ledges for kittiwakes; however, ledges appear to be narrower and more densely packed at high elevation because volcanic rock composing high-elevation cliffs is more finely fractured and less columnar than rock at low elevation (pers. obs.). Therefore, at high elevation, density-biased recruitment could, through positive feedback, enhance the density of Red-legged Kittiwakes to a greater degree than was possible at low elevation. Hence, the current distribution of Red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island may represent an stable state that was an inevitable product of the

distribution of potential breeding sites and density biased recruitment.

Forbes and Kaiser (1994) explain the attraction of cliff-nesting seabirds to established breeding areas by suggesting that prospectors must overcome an "information barrier" to colonize unoccupied nesting habitat: they must weigh fitness costs of intense interspecific competition for limited nest sites that occur within established breeding areas against unknown risks associated with pioneering unoccupied nesting habitat. In addition, prospecting individuals potentially obtain information about habitat quality from not only the presence, but also the reproductive success, of conspecifics (Boulinier et al. 1996). Prospecting kittiwakes may be attracted to high density groups because anti-predatory, "selfish herd" advantages, which operate within any group of organisms, increase as a positive function of group size (Bertram 1978) and potentially enhance reproductive success. Although predation is not currently a significant source of nest failure on St. George Island (pers. obs.), kittiwake nest site preferences may have been shaped by past predation and may persist as a "ghost of predation past" in the absence of active reinforcement.

I found that social, rather than physical, factors had a greater influence on the suitability of nest sites to kittiwakes (Fig. 2.9). Although nest sites are not generally limiting on St. George Island (Byrd and Williams 1993), the attraction of kittiwakes to preferred social environments was so great that, in high-density plots, artificial ledges with preferred physical characteristics became limiting within two weeks of being established, and, thereafter, individuals occupied ledges with less-preferred physical characteristics (pers. obs.). Other researchers have also observed that cliff-nesting seabirds compete intensely for nest sites and may use physically sub-optimal sites within established breeding areas. Black-legged Kittiwakes nesting on window ledges of an abandoned warehouse in northern England competed intensely for a limited number of nest sites located at the center of the colony (Porter and Coulson 1987). When additional nesting ledges were provided, kittiwakes occupied more than 80% of those located within the preferred center of the colony but did not use physically identical ledges located at the

colony periphery (Porter and Coulson 1987). Ashmole (1962) reported that Black Noddies (*Anous tenuirostris*) on Ascension Island competed intensely for nest sites located within existing breeding colonies even though suitable, unoccupied nesting habitat was available on nearby cliffs. Nest sites were so limited within existing noddy colonies that some individuals attempted to breed on ledges that were too narrow to effectively hold eggs (Ashmole 1962). Similarly, Duffy (1983) reported that intraspecific competition within two species of ground-nesting “guano birds”, the Guanay Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*) and the Peruvian Booby (*Sula variegata*), displaced later-arriving breeders to less-preferred habitat at the periphery of monospecific breeding aggregations. Lastly, intense intraspecific competition and nest site limitation within socially preferred areas may explain why seabirds nesting in Aberdeenshire, Scotland used physically atypical nest sites even though suitable nest sites were available nearby (Olsthoorn and Nelson 1990), and may further explain paradoxical observations of an absence of overt interspecific competition for nest sites despite great overlap in physical characteristics of nest sites used by different species of seabirds (Olsthoorn and Nelson 1990, Squibb and Hunt 1983).

In summary, results of artificial ledge experiments indicated that Red-legged Kittiwakes preferred narrow artificial ledges, Black-legged Kittiwakes preferred wide ledges, both species preferred ledges located in areas where conspecifics nest at high densities, and ledge use was influenced to a greater degree by social vs. physical characteristics of nest sites. Where use patterns of artificial ledges departed from use patterns of natural ledges, the difference was in the direction of reduced overlap between species on artificial ledges, suggesting that realized niches of both kittiwake species on St. George Island are not restricted by interspecific competition relative to the fundamental niches of both species. Thus, I conclude that Red-legged Kittiwakes are not competitively displaced by Black-legged Kittiwakes; rather, they prefer the narrow, high elevation ledges that they use in nature. This conclusion is further supported by comparable inter-specific overlap in the physical characteristics of ledges between 1976

and the mid 1990's (Table 2.1) despite a 50% reduction in populations (and, presumably, interspecific competition for nest sites) of both species on St. George Island over this same time period (Dragoo and Sundseth 1993). In contrast, the competitive displacement hypothesis predicted greater interspecific overlap of realized niches during conditions of relaxed interspecific competition.

In discarding the competitive displacement hypothesis, I do not rule out the possibility that current distributions and nest site preferences of kittiwakes may have been shaped by interspecific competition during the evolutionary history of the two species and, hence, may be a "ghost of competition past". Alternately, differing nest site preferences of the two kittiwake species might reflect ecological specialization that is unrelated to interspecific competition. Narrow ledges are potentially a valuable resource to cliff-nesting seabirds because they are less accessible to both terrestrial and aerial predators. Red-legged Kittiwakes are smaller bodied, build smaller more adhesive nests, and lay fewer eggs than Black-legged Kittiwakes (Byrd and Williams 1993, Squibb and Hunt 1983) and, thus, may be uniquely adapted to exploit the narrow ledges they use in nature. Regardless of which selective forces have shaped nest site preferences of kittiwakes, physical and behavioral adaptations of the Red-legged Kittiwake for narrow ledges suggests that nest site preferences of the two species diverged in the distant evolutionary past.

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Table 2.1. Characteristics of natural nesting ledges of kittiwakes. Data presented for Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) Kittiwakes on St. George Island, Alaska.

Measure ^a	Squibb and Hunt (1983)		This Study			
	Red (n = 86)	Black (n = 70)	Red (n = 255)	Black (n = 203)	Test ^b Statistic	P ^c
Ledge Width (cm)	12 (4.6) ^d	21 (6.7)	15.2 (5.0)	21.4 (8.2)	Z = 9.13	< 0.001
Ledge Length (cm)	27 (15.7)	41 (21.8)	29.6 (26.9)	38.8 (23.8)	Z = 7.83	< 0.001
Ledge Slope (°)	-15 (19.5)	-12 (16.7)	-20.1 (10.9)	-18.9 (10.2)	Z = 0.89	0.37, ns
Backwall Slope (°)	87 (10.2)	89 (9.2)	79.3 (19.2)	82.4 (14.7)	Z = 2.14	0.03, ns
Overhang ^e Presence	0.63	0.27	0.51	0.26	G ₁ = 31.1	0.001
Standard ^e Overhang	na	na	0.47	0.34	G ₁ = 8.02	0.005
Enclosure ^f	na	na	1.53	1.35	G ₂ = 11.7	0.003

^a see methods section for descriptions of measurements.

^b Z = Mann-Whitney U test (normal approximation), G = log-likelihood test.

^c $\alpha = 0.05 / 7$ comparisons = 0.0071.

^d \bar{x} and (standard deviation) presented.

^e no standard deviation computed for this binary variable; value is the proportion of nests with an overhanging backwall.

^f no standard deviation computed for this categorical variable; value is mean of enclosure scores that ranged from 1 (not enclosed) to 3 (fully enclosed).

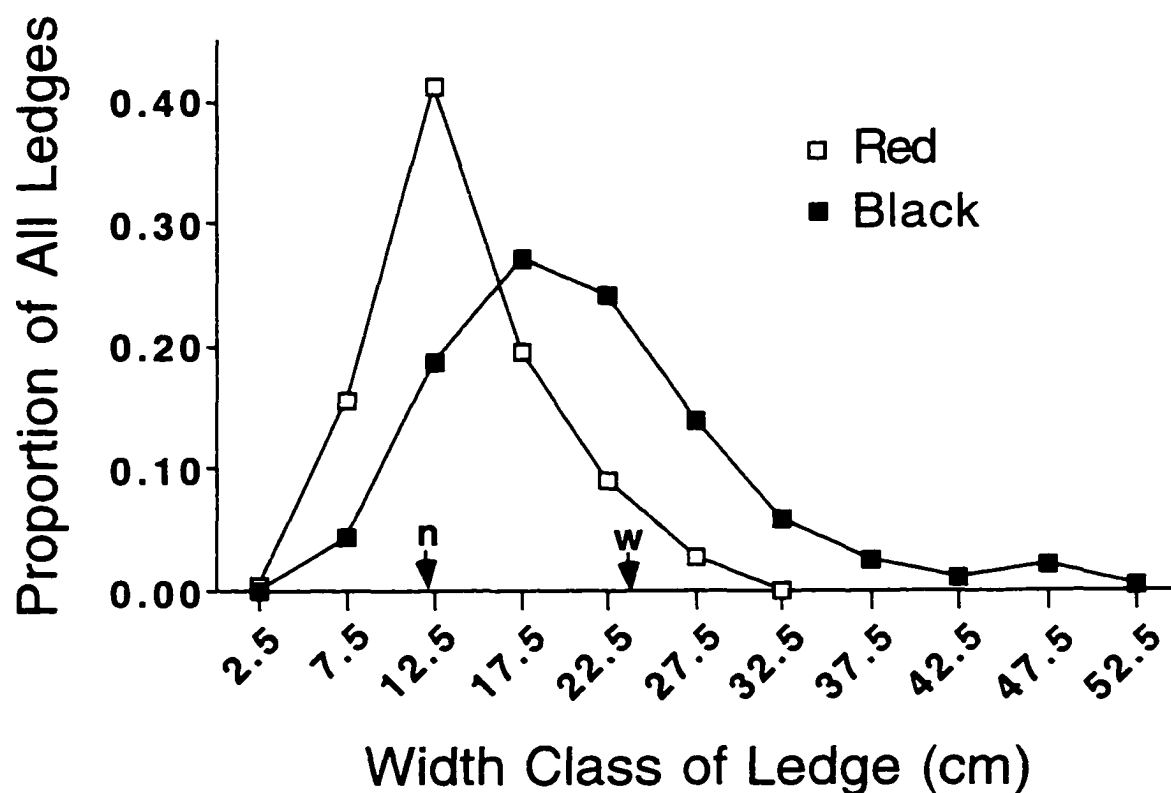


Figure 2.2. Width distributions of natural kittiwake nesting ledges. Relative frequency distributions presented for Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) Kittiwakes. Values on the x-axis represent midpoints of width classes that span 5 cm each. Arrows above the x-axis indicate the mean widths of narrow (n) and wide (w) artificial ledges.

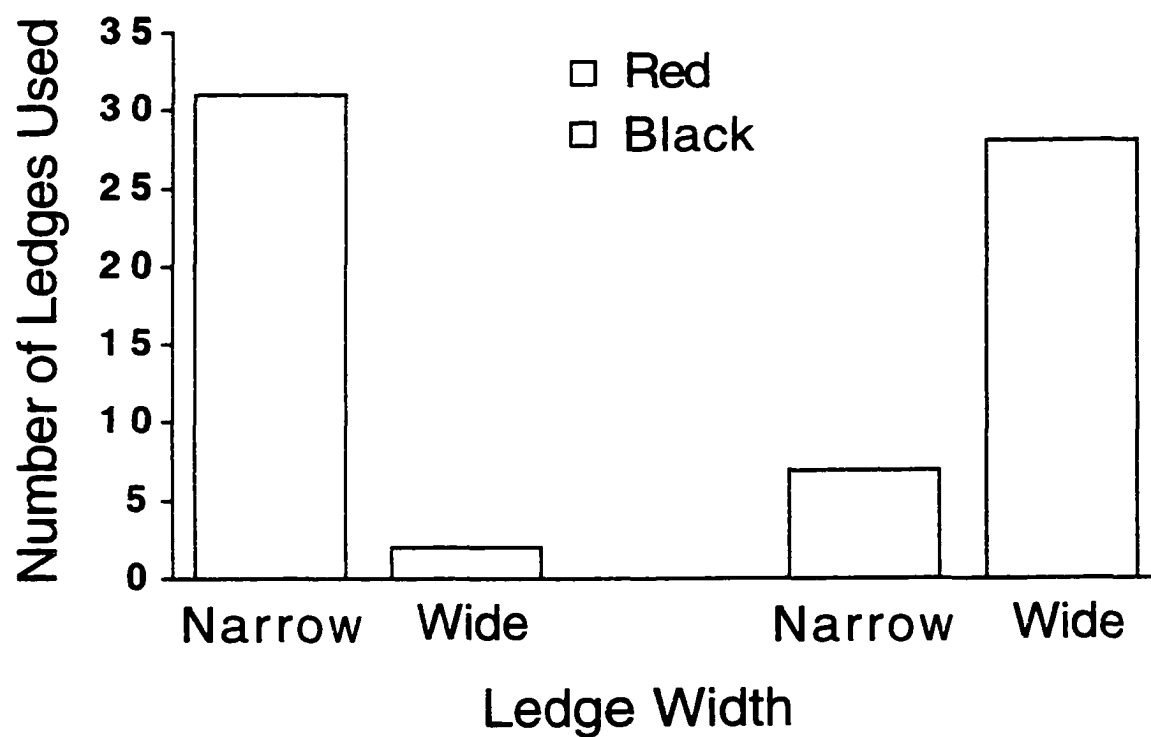


Figure 2.3. Use of narrow and wide artificial ledges by kittiwakes. Relative use of narrow (12.1 cm) and wide (23.3 cm) ledges by Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) Kittiwakes differed significantly between species and departed significantly from equality within each species.

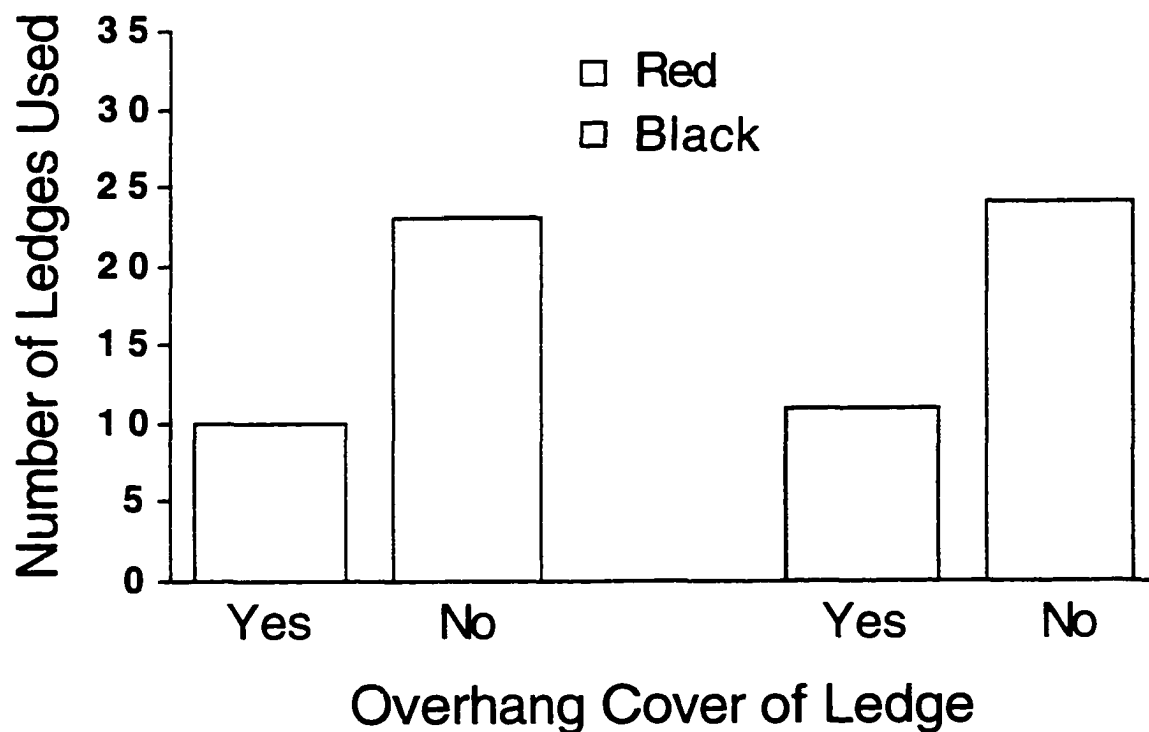


Figure 2.4. Use of artificial ledges with and without overhang cover by kittiwakes. Relative use of ledges with and without overhang cover did not differ between Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) Kittiwakes but was significantly greater for ledges lacking overhangs for both species.

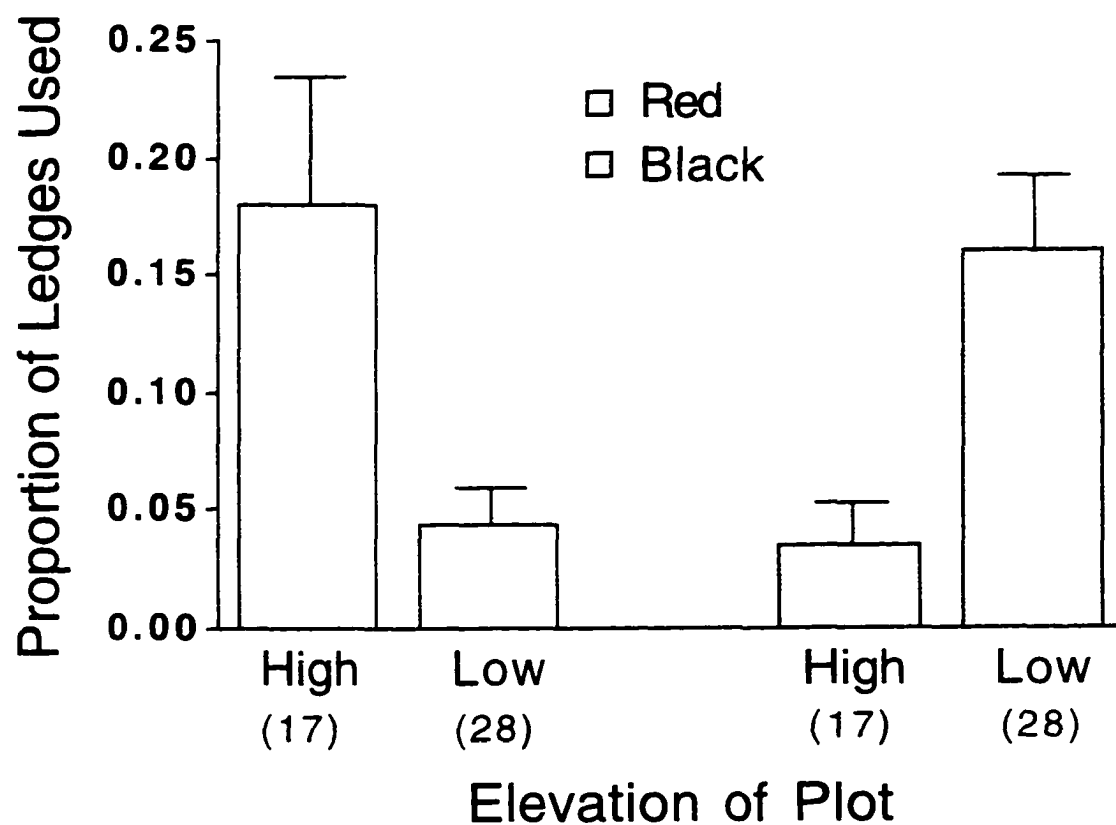


Figure 2.5. Use of artificial ledges at high and low elevations by kittiwakes. The proportion of ledges used by Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) kittiwakes differed significantly between high-elevation plots (200 - 300 m ASL) and low-elevation plots (3 - 30 m ASL). Means, standard errors, and sample sizes (n) are presented.

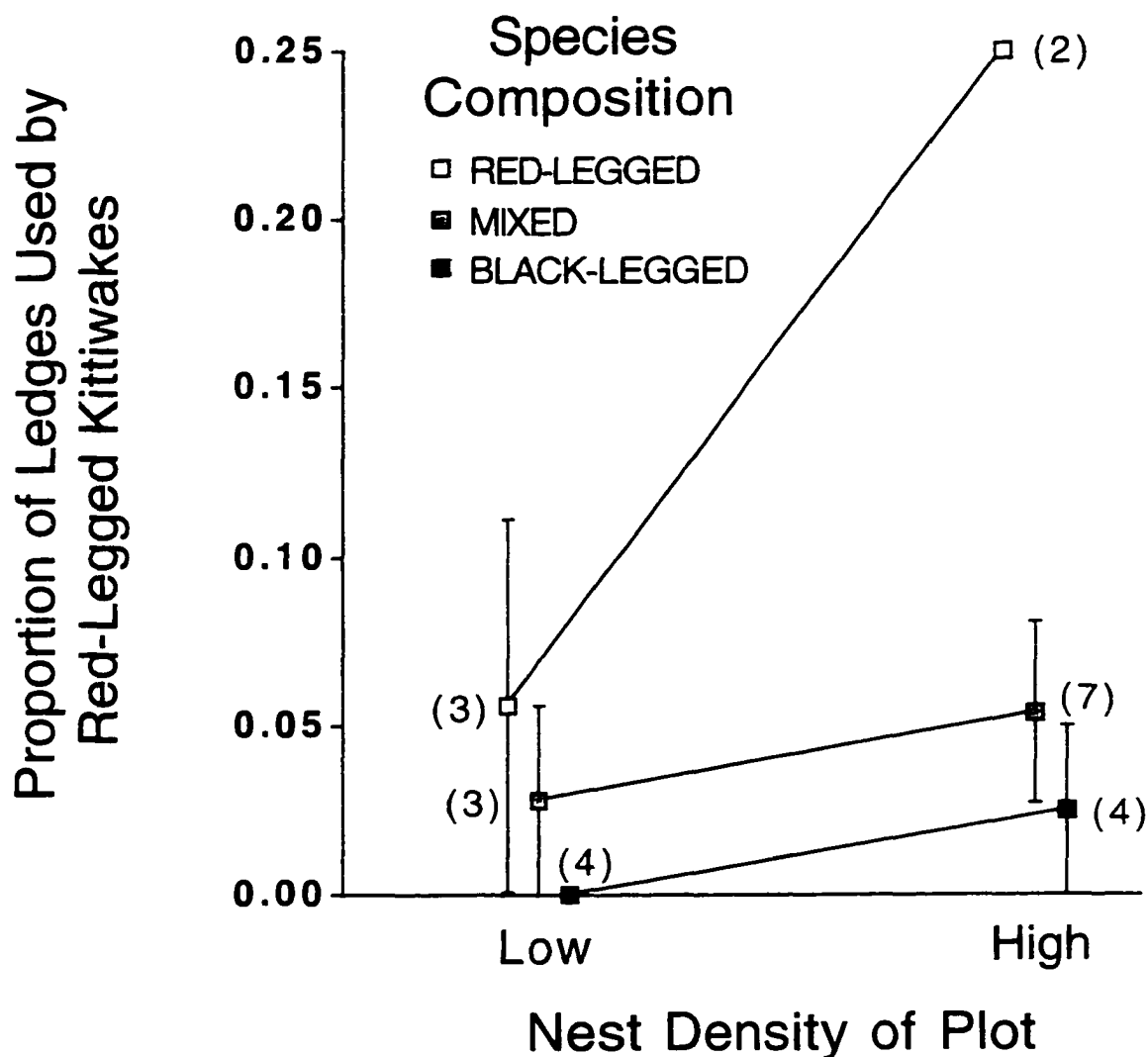


Figure 2.6. Effects of density and species composition of natural nest on use of artificial ledges by Red-legged Kittiwakes. Ledge use was greatest on high-density plots that were red-legged in species composition. Only data from low-elevation plots were considered in this analysis. Means, standard errors, and sample sizes (n) are presented.

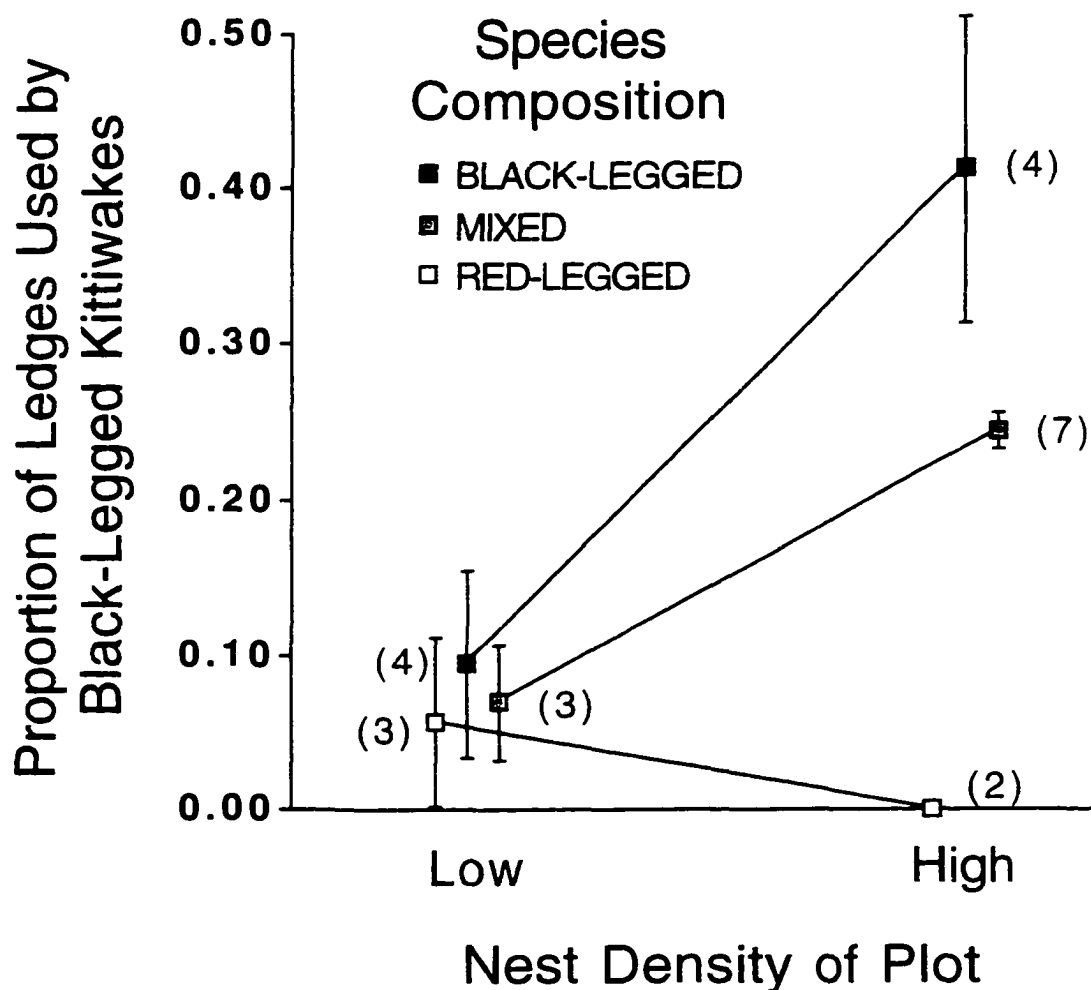


Figure 2.7. Effects of density and species composition of natural nests on use of artificial ledges by Black-legged kittiwakes. Ledge use was greatest on high-density plots that were black-legged in species composition. Only data from low-elevation plots were considered in this analysis. Means, standard errors, and sample sizes (*n*) are presented.

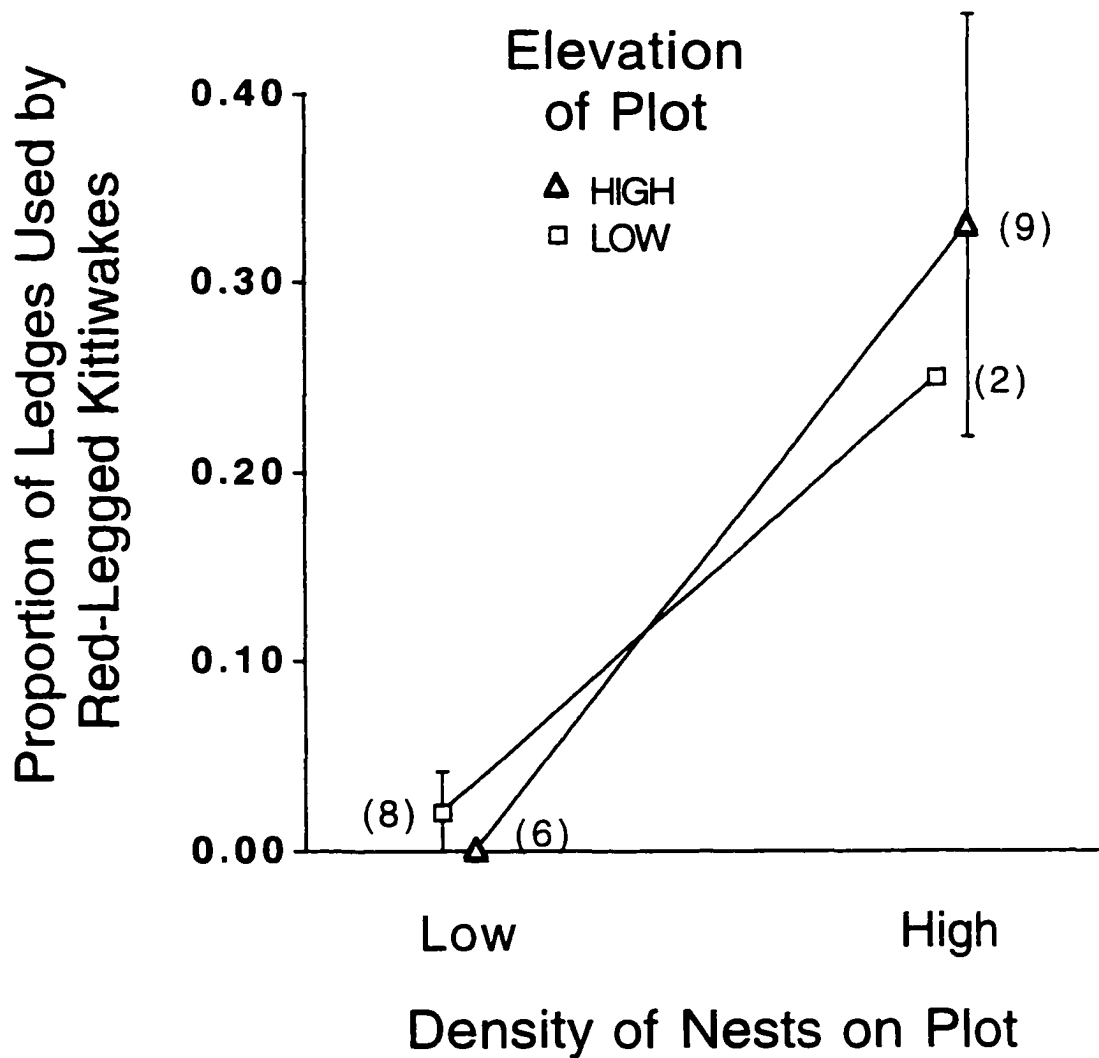


Figure 2.8. Effects of density and elevation on use of artificial ledges by Red-legged Kittiwakes. Ledge use was greater on high-density plots but did not differ between elevations. Only plots that were > 80 % Red-legged Kittiwake in species composition were considered in this analysis. Means, standard errors, and sample sizes (n) are indicated.

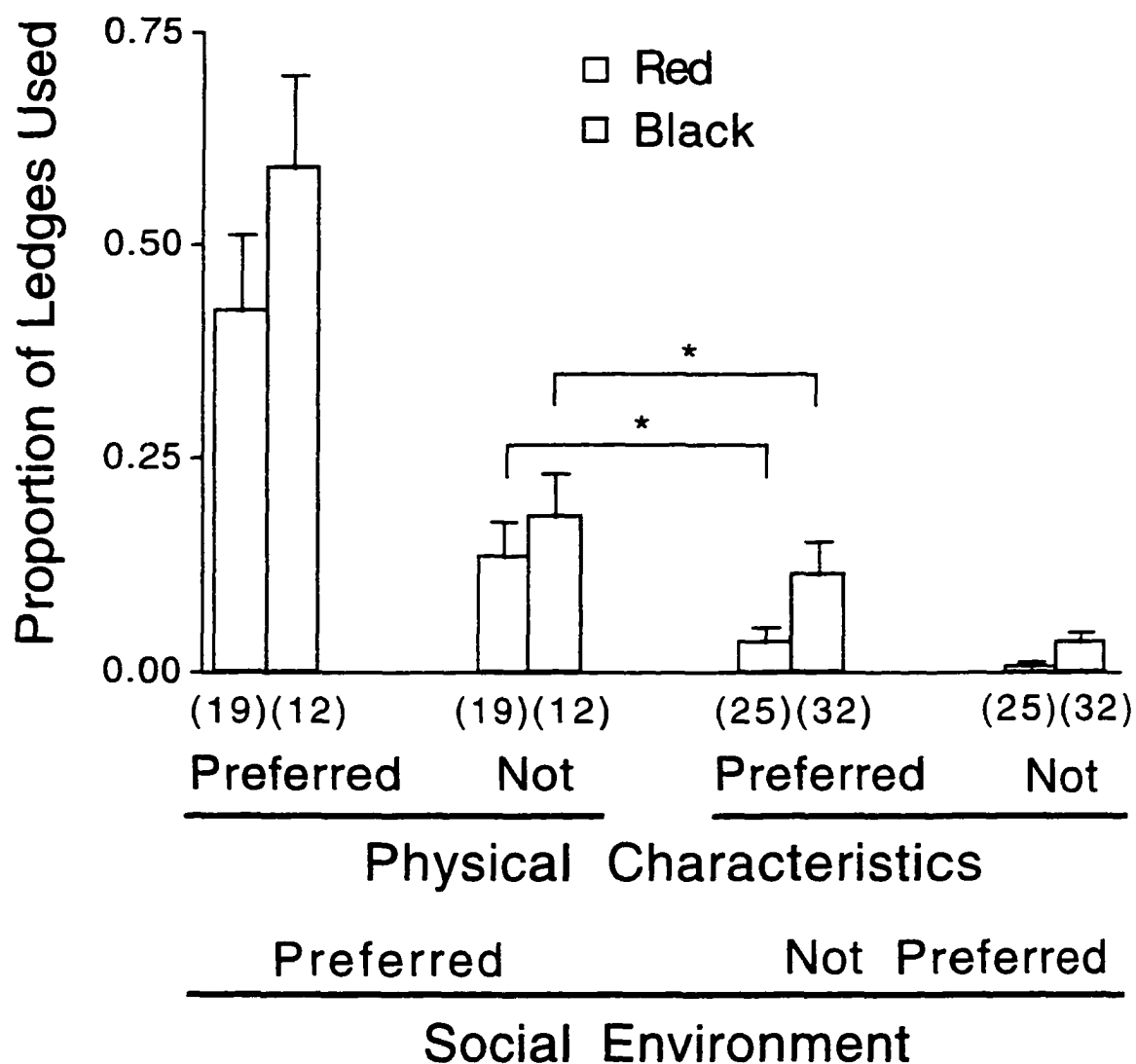


Figure 2.9. Effects of physical characteristics and social environment on use of artificial ledges by kittiwakes. Social characteristics had greater influence on ledge use than did physical characteristics ($* = P < 0.05$) for both Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) Kittiwakes. Other pairwise comparisons were not performed. Means, standard errors, and sample sizes (n) are presented.

EFFECTS OF WEATHER ON REPRODUCTION AND CHICK GROWTH OF KITTIWAKES³

ABSTRACT

I investigated the effects of weather on the reproduction of Red-legged (*Rissa brevirostris*) and Black-legged Kittiwakes (*R. tridactyla*) on St. George Island, in the Southeastern Bering Sea, in two ways. 1) I used multiple regression models to determine the relationship between each of several reproductive measures of kittiwakes (breeding chronology, laying success, hatching success, fledging success, and overall productivity) and a suite of 11 meteorological and oceanographic variables (air temperature, wind speed, sea ice cover, and sea surface temperature). 2) I evaluated effects of strong winds on the growth of kittiwake chicks in both sheltered and exposed nest sites by comparing chick growth between calm and windy time intervals. Multiple regression models explained between 34% and 68% of interannual variability in kittiwake reproduction and indicated that both species bred earlier and had greater breeding success in summers preceded by cold winters with extensive sea ice cover. These results suggest that winter weather influences kittiwake productivity, indirectly, by affecting oceanographic conditions and the abundance and distribution of kittiwake prey in the vicinity of St. George Island in the following summer. In addition, I found both direct and indirect effects of strong winds on growth rates of kittiwake chicks on St. George Island. Chick growth of both species was negatively affected by direct exposure of nest sites to strong winds, an effect that was most likely due to increased energetic demands of thermoregulation. In addition, effects of wind on chick growth differed significantly between species: wind suppressed the growth of Black-legged Kittiwake chicks relative to that of Red-legged Kittiwake chicks. I propose that the differential response of the two

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species was due to differing effects of wind on foraging efficiency of adults.

INTRODUCTION

Over the past 20 years, the breeding success of Red-legged (*Rissa brevivostris*) and Black-legged (*R. tridactyla*) Kittiwakes in the North Pacific and the Bering Sea has been generally lower and more variable than that of Black-legged Kittiwakes breeding in the North Atlantic (e.g., Murphy et al. 1991, Hatch et al. 1993). In particular, kittiwakes on St. George Island, in the southeastern Bering Sea, experienced poor productivity and marked population declines during the 1980's (Byrd et al. 1997). The Red-legged Kittiwake, a Bering Sea endemic, is currently a species of concern because more than 80% of its global population breeds on St. George Island (Kildaw 1998), the largest of only four known breeding localities of this species (Byrd et al. 1997). Other upper trophic level consumers in the Bering Sea also have experienced dramatic population reductions over the past two decades (e.g., Steller sea lion, *Eumatopias jubatus*, Merrick et al. 1987; Northern fur seal, *Callorhinus ursinus*, York and Kosloff 1987; harbor seal, *Phoca vitulina*, Pitcher 1990), suggesting that ecosystem-wide changes may have contributed to declines of kittiwake populations on St. George Island. At present, the cause of changing conditions in the Bering Sea is the subject of much debate focused on possible impacts of commercial fisheries and climate change of apex consumers (Springer 1992, Castellini 1993).

A regime-shift from cooler to warmer climatic conditions that occurred in the late 1970's (Neibauer 1988) is one possible explanation for poor reproductive performance of kittiwakes on St. George Island. Weather can influence the reproductive performance of seabirds in several ways. It can have indirect, "bottom-up" effects on prey abundance by altering patterns of ocean primary productivity. The most spectacular example of a bottom-up effect of weather in a marine ecosystem is the "El Nino" phenomena that occurs with a 5-10 year periodicity in equatorial waters of the Eastern Pacific and is responsible for catastrophic reproductive failures and marked population declines of

seabirds and marine mammals (e.g., Schrieber and Schrieber 1989). Weather may also influence foraging conditions for seabirds by affecting the distribution of prey in the water column (Olla and Davis 1990), the roughness of the ocean surface (Dunn 1973, Salt and Willard 1971, Birkhead 1976), and the amount of energy seabirds expend while foraging and commuting between nest sites and feeding areas (Gabrielsen et al. 1987, Furness and Bryant 1996). Lastly, weather can directly affect the reproductive performance of seabirds by exposing eggs, chicks and adult birds to temperature extremes (Gordon 1928, Tuck 1961, Barrett and Runde 1980), or by physically destroying nest sites (Threlfall et al. 1974, Byrd and Tobish 1978).

In this paper I investigate the relationship between weather and reproduction of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island, Alaska. Kittiwakes are small pelagic gulls that feed by plunge-diving and surface-seizing, and capture prey only within the uppermost 0.5 m of the water column (Byrd and Williams 1993). Kittiwakes, and other species of surface-feeding seabirds, may be especially sensitive to weather conditions because their foraging success is highly dependent not only on prey abundance, but also the vertical distribution of prey in the water column and prey visibility through the air-water interface. Indeed, in Alaskan waters, kittiwakes exhibit greater variability in productivity than do diving species of seabirds (Hatch et al. 1993) which may be related to their limited foraging depth.

Lloyd (1985) examined the relationship between weather and kittiwake reproduction on St. George Island using data from years coincident with the regime shift (1976-1984) and found that reproductive performance of both Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island was negatively correlated with wind speed and precipitation during the breeding season. Using a data set spanning 20 years (1975 - 1995), I re-examined the relationship between the reproduction of kittiwakes on St. George Island and weather conditions in the southeastern Bering Sea by evaluating two predictions of Lloyd's (1985) "bad weather" hypotheses: (1) I tested the prediction that windy, rainy conditions negatively affect kittiwake productivity, by developing multiple

regression models which relate productivity to these and other weather variables; and (2) I tested the prediction that strong winds and rough sea conditions impair the growth of kittiwake chicks, by comparing growth rates of chicks in exposed and sheltered nest sites during calm and windy periods.

METHODS

Sources of Data

I monitored reproductive performance and chick growth of Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island, Alaska, during the summers of 1993 - 1995 on 20 low-elevation plots located near the village of St. George (< 30 m Above Sea Level, ASL) and on 6 high-elevation plots located within the "High Bluff" cliff section (> 200 m ASL). I used a climbing rope or ladder to access reproductive plots every 3-5 days over a three-month period from egg laying through chick fledging and on each visit recorded the developmental status of each nest site. Sites where a level disk of mud/material > 15 cm in diameter and > 5cm thick was constructed before or during the egg laying period and persisted for at least two visits were categorized as "nest attempts". I marked nest and egg numbers on both ends of newly-laid eggs and monitored each egg until either disappearance or the chick's age exceeded 35 days. For broods of two chicks, I assumed that larger chicks were older chicks. All chicks were weighed ($\pm 2 - 5$ g) during each nest visit using a Pesola spring scale.

I obtained additional reproductive data for kittiwakes on St. George Island for 1975 - 1995 from several sources: 1975-1978 (Hunt et al. 1981), 1979-81 (Lloyd 1985), 1984 (Johnson and Baker 1985), 1985-1995 (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996). Although study plots and methodologies of these sources were not identical, methods were similar and some study plots were common to all studies. Data were obtained directly from the above sources with the following exceptions: (1) I used reproductive data for 1976 - 1978 as they are presented in Dragoo and Dragoo (1996) rather than in Hunt et al. (1981) because the format of these data in Dragoo and Dragoo (1996) was comparable with data from

later years: (2) I expressed all hatch dates as days since May 31; (3) in two years for which fewer than 10 observations of hatch date were available for a given species of kittiwake, I estimated the mean hatch date by adding the mean incubation period (30 days for Red-legged Kittiwakes and 27 days for Black-legged Kittiwakes; Byrd and Williams 1993) to the mean date of laying of first eggs within each clutch for that species in that year; (4) in seven years for which fewer than 10 observations of both laying and hatching were available for a given species of kittiwake, I estimated the mean date of hatch from the regression relationship observed between mean hatch dates of the two species on St. George I (\bar{x} hatch red = $1.41(\bar{x}$ hatch black) - 19.8, $n = 12$, $R^2 = 0.91$, $P < 0.001$) or from regression relationships for mean hatch dates of each species between St. George I. and St. Paul I. (Red-legged Kittiwakes; \bar{x} hatch St. George = $1.17(\bar{x}$ hatch St. Paul) - 9.8, $n = 8$, $R^2 = 0.86$, $P = 0.0009$) (Black-legged Kittiwakes; \bar{x} hatch St. George = $0.83(\bar{x}$ hatch St. Paul hatch) + 7.3, $n = 8$, $R^2 = 0.80$, $P = 0.007$). I established regression equations using data from years with known hatch dates for ≥ 10 nests.

I acquired weather records for 1975 - 1995 from several sources. I obtained monthly, daily, and 3-hourly records of \bar{x} air temperature (AIR), total precipitation (PREC), \bar{x} wind velocity (WIND), resultant wind velocity, and resultant wind direction from Local Climatological Records for the National Weather Service (NWS) station located on St. Paul I., approximately 70 km north of St. George I. Resultant wind values reported by the NWS were computed by vector addition of hourly wind measurements of velocity and direction and are in essence "net" wind measurements (reversals in wind direction within the time period cancel each other out). I determined monthly values for NWIND (a measure of the north component of wind speed) by multiplying resultant wind velocity by the cosine of resultant wind direction. NWIND was positive when winds were from the north, negative when winds were from the south, and = 0 when winds were from the east or west. I obtained monthly measures of percent sea ice cover (ICE) for 1975 - 1995 for approximately the eastern half of the Bering Sea (described in Neibauer 1980) from J. Neibauer (unpublished data). From the Climate Research Group of Scripps

Institute of Oceanography. I obtained mean monthly measurements of sea surface temperature and barometric pressure for blocks of 5° latitude and 5° longitude that cover the entire northern Pacific Ocean and southern Bering Sea. In my analyses I use monthly measures of sea surface temperature (SST) for the 5° x 5° block centered over the Pribilof Islands (170° W 55° N). I also computed monthly values of the North Pacific index (NP), a measure of the strength of the Aleutian Low (Barnstron and Livezey 1987), by averaging barometric pressure values, also obtained from the Scripps Institute, over the North Pacific Ocean (160° E-140° W by 30° N-65° N). The Aleutian Low is a dominant weather system in the North Pacific and fluctuations in its strength and position are known to influence temperature and wind conditions in the Bering Sea (Neibauer 1988). Lastly, I obtained monthly values of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) from the Climate Diagnostics Bulletin of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The SOI is calculated as the difference between barometric pressure anomalies (departures from the long term average monthly values) of two weather stations in the south Pacific Ocean: Darwin, Australia and Tahiti in the Society Islands. Fluctuations in the SOI are coupled with weather patterns on a global scale and in particular are related to the strength and position of the Aleutian Low in the North Pacific (Neibauer 1988).

Effects of Weather on Kittiwake Reproduction

I constructed explanatory models of the relationship between reproductive parameters of kittiwakes and weather variables using a multiple regression approach. I developed regression models for each of the following reproductive parameters for both Red-legged Kittiwakes and Black-legged Kittiwakes:

Hatch Date = mean hatch date for first eggs within clutches

Laying Success = E/N

Hatching Success = C/E

Fledging Success = F/C

Productivity = F/N

Where: N = total number of nest attempts, E = number of nests where ≥ 1 egg was laid, C = number of nests where ≥ 1 chick hatched, and F = number of nests where ≥ 1 chick fledged. Laying and hatching were assumed to have occurred on the midpoint between the date on which the egg or chick was first observed and the date of the previous nest visit. Chicks were considered to have survived to fledging when 27 days old for Red-legged Kittiwakes and 33 days old for Black-legged Kittiwakes (Dragoo and Dragoo 1996). In regression models developed for Black-legged Kittiwakes, I replaced Hatching Success and Fledging Success with "HF Success" ($= F/E$) because Hatching Success and Fledging Success could not be individually calculated in several years.

I began with an array of 96 weather variables as potential explanatory variables for multiple regression analyses (12 monthly variables for each of 8 weather parameters) and samples of 16 - 20 years of observations for reproductive variables. I initially transformed each weather variable to a centered (mean = 0), "anomaly" distribution by subtracting long-term monthly means from absolute monthly measurements.

I used objective procedures to reduce this pool of candidate weather variables in regression analyses to as few as possible: multiple regression analyses will generate good-fitting models from random "noise" when the number of potential explanatory variables exceeds the sample size and, ideally, the number of potential explanatory variables (weather variables) should not exceed 10 % the number of observations (years) (Neter et al. 1990). I first pooled monthly variables into three "seasons" that corresponded to identifiable stages of the annual cycle of kittiwakes by simply summing anomaly values across months:

Winter = January + February + March (kittiwakes absent from breeding colony)

Spring = April + May (colony attendance, nest building)

Summer = June + July + August (incubating, brood-rearing).

I then deleted weather variables for September - December and was left with 24 (three seasonal measures for each of 8 weather parameters). Throughout this paper I refer to weather variables by concatenating the abbreviation for the weather parameter (AIR,

PREC, WIND, NW, ICE, SST, SOI, NP) and the season (winter, spring, summer).

In multiple regression analyses, variables that are highly correlated are redundant, will mask one another, and will produce unreliable parameter estimates with inflated variances (Neter et al. 1990). I further reduced the number of weather variables and eliminated inter-correlations between them by performing principal component (PC) analyses on 3 suites of highly correlated ($r > .70$) weather variables and replaced each suite with the first principal component of each analysis (R^2 values describe the amount of joint variability in the original weather variables that is contained in the first PC axis): the variable PCwinter ($R^2 = 0.92$) replaced AIRwinter and ICEwinter; PCspring ($R^2 = 0.87$) replaced AIRspring, ICESpring, and SSTspring; and PCsummer ($R^2 = 0.86$) replaced AIRsummer and SSTsummer.

Lastly, I dropped 9 of the remaining 20 weather variables on grounds of biological irrelevance. I had initially considered SOI and NP for inclusion in multiple regression analyses because each had the potential to integrate variability observed in other weather variables; however, I dropped SOI and NP because they were only weakly correlated with other weather variables and could not influence kittiwake reproduction directly. I eliminated the variable ICESummer because during the summer months the ice edge retreats more than 1000 km north of St. George Island into the Chukchi Sea where it does not directly affect breeding kittiwakes. Lastly, I eliminated the variables WINDwinter and PRECwinter because these variables should not affect physical oceanographic conditions near St. George Island in the following summer.

Having reduced the pool of weather variables to 11, I visually inspected bivariate scatter plots of reproductive parameters and weather variables for non-linearity and outlying data points. Where a scatter plot suggested a curvilinear relationship, I fit linear and quadratic regressions to the data. If the R^2 of the quadratic model exceeded 0.36 and improved upon the R^2 of the linear model by > 0.2 , I added the squared term of the weather variable to the pool of candidate weather variables for that particular reproductive parameter. I screened outlying observations for errors in data entry but

otherwise retained these data points.

For each species, I performed a "best subsets" multiple regression analysis (Neter et al. 1990) for each reproductive parameter using the pool of weather variables developed above as potential independent variables. I used the adjusted R^2 criterion to identify the 5 best-fitting regression models for each size class of model containing 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 weather variables, respectively, and used PRESS scores and Mallows' C_p statistics to select the "best" model. I identified all models with PRESS scores within 15% of the value of the lowest PRESS score and, from this subset of potential models, used C_p scores and Mallows' graphical method to select the "best" model. In short, the best model had the lowest C_p score where C_p first approached p , the number of parameters in the regression model, including the intercept term (Neter et al. 1990). For all selected models I performed standard residual analyses for normality and outliers and plotted residuals against each weather variable incorporated in the model.

For several years in which the timing of kittiwake reproduction was exceptionally late (Hatch Date > 29 July), the standard seasonal definitions for spring and summer poorly match pre-breeding and breeding phases of the kittiwake reproductive cycle. Therefore, to investigate the influence of timing of breeding on multiple regression models, I extended the Spring "pre-breeding season" to include June and shifted the Summer (breeding) season to span July - September, because these "seasons" better reflected the breeding chronology of kittiwakes in those years, and compared regression models generated using original and modified seasonal definitions.

Effects of Wind on Chick Growth Rates

I evaluated the effects of wind conditions on the growth rate of kittiwake chicks by comparing measurements of growth between windy and calm periods. I defined "storm" events as periods during which mean wind velocities in excess of 25 km/h were sustained for a minimum of 12 hours. In contrast, average wind velocities during "calm" periods in the summer never exceeded 20 km/h. During the summer months, strong

winds were associated with low pressure fronts moving easterly across the southern Bering Sea and typically persisted for 18-36 hr. I recorded the start and stop time of each storm event as well as average wind direction, total precipitation, and average wind velocity for the 12 hr period with the strongest winds.

I determined growth rates for kittiwake chicks in 1993 and 1994 from periodic chick weights by computing daily mass increments for each chick over each interval between successive nest visits. Daily mass increments reflect not only growth over the time interval but also changes in the amount of food in the chick's digestive tract. Although variation in stomach fullness contributes to variability in mass increments, the average mass increment for a sample of chicks over several time intervals represents an unbiased estimate of chick growth. I did not include chick age as a covariate in my analyses because chicks of both kittiwake species exhibited approximately linear growth between 4 and 25 days (Fig. 3.1), and I restricted growth data to this age range in all analyses.

For each chick, I determined the proportion of each interval that was characterized by storm conditions. Intervals that were less than 25% storm were classified as Calm intervals, and intervals that were more than 25% storm were classified as Storm intervals. I used 25% as the classification criterion because it maximized the number of chicks (the sample size) for which growth measurements could be compared between Calm and Storm intervals in both 1993 and 1994. To avoid pseudo-replication, I determined the average growth rate of each chick across all calm and all storm intervals, and performed statistical tests on paired-sample differences in mean growth of individual chicks between calm and storm intervals. Negative differences indicated that chick growth rates were suppressed during storms while positive differences indicated that growth rates were enhanced during storms.

The most severe storms of the nestling period in both 1993 and 1994 were from the north and occurred when most kittiwake chicks were less than 14 days of age. Although all nest sites were located on north-facing cliffs, nests at higher elevations

experienced dense fog almost continually and were exposed to severe updrafts when winds were from the north. At times, updrafts were so strong at High Bluff that adult kittiwakes had difficulty landing at nest sites and were forced to alter their incubating or brooding posture to avoid being physically blown from the nest (pers. obs.). To evaluate the effects of nest exposure on chick growth, I compared chick growth rates between exposed nest sites at the "High Bluff" section of cliff (> 200 m ASL) and more-sheltered nest sites near the village at low elevation (< 30 m ASL).

For each year, I evaluated the effect of storms on chick growth rates by performing a two-factor ANOVA using storm vs. non-storm difference measurements of chick growth with species and nest exposure as factors. I also compared the effects of storms on growth rate of chicks of each species within each treatment (exposed vs. sheltered) within each year, using Wilcoxon tests and applying a Bonferroni adjustment to *P* values to compensate for these multiple comparisons. These analyses were performed on rank-transformed data because raw difference data did not meet parametric assumptions. All statistical analyses were performed using SAS 6.11 for Windows.

RESULTS

Effects of Weather on Kittiwake Reproduction

Multiple regression models explained between 34 % and 69 % of the inter-annual variability observed in reproductive variables of both kittiwake species (Table 3.1). The weather variable PCwinter, a measure of air temperature and sea-ice cover during the winter, was the most important factor in regression models for both species (Table 3.1).

For Red-legged Kittiwakes, the relationship between Hatch Date and PCwinter was curvilinear with an R^2 of .68, the highest of any regression model examined in this analysis (Table 3.1). Red-legged Kittiwakes bred earliest when the preceding winter was moderately cold and bred later when the winter was warm or extremely cold (Fig. 3.2). In addition, Red-legged Kittiwakes exhibited greater Laying Success, Fledging Success, and Productivity in years preceded by cold winters (PCwinter) and calm springs

(WINDspring) , but greater Hatching Success during windy summers (WINDsummer, NWsummer) (Table 3.1).

Black-legged Kittiwakes bred earlier in summers preceded by calm springs (WINDspring) and by strong north winds during the winter (NWINDwinter). Furthermore, reproductive performance was greater in years preceded by cold winters (PCwinter) and calm (NWINDspring), dry (PRECspring) springs (Table 3.1).

Multiple regression models developed using original and modified seasonal definitions were comparable: breeding success was poorly related to weather conditions during the summer breeding season and was positively related to cold conditions in the winter (PCwinter) in both sets of analyses. Although most original and modified “best-fit” regression models included the same weather variables, modified seasonal definitions improved the fit (R^2) moderately in 5 of 9 instances.

Effects of Wind on Chick Growth Rates

A two-factor ANOVA performed on rank-transformed data indicated that the effect of storms on the growth rate of kittiwake chicks differed significantly between species and between nest sites in exposed vs. sheltered locations in both 1993 (species: $F_{1,111} = 7.3$, $P = 0.008$; exposure: $F_{1,111} = 5.8$, $P = 0.02$) and 1994 (species: $F_{1,102} = 6.6$, $P = 0.01$; exposure: $F_{1,102} = 8.6$, $P = 0.004$; Fig. 3.4), but the species * exposure interaction was not significant in either year (1993: $F_{1,111} = 0.37$, $P = 0.5$; 1994: $F_{1,102} = 0.08$, $P = 0.8$). Strong winds were associated with reduced growth of Black-legged Kittiwake chicks, relative to Red-legged Kittiwake chicks, and, for both species, were associated with reduced chick growth in exposed vs. sheltered nest sites (Fig. 3.3). Although there were significant effects of species and nest exposure on the response of growth rates of kittiwake chicks to strong winds, in neither year did the mean response of either species in either treatment differ significantly from 0, the null expectation (all $P > 0.05$). Regardless, data for chicks in sheltered nest sites suggest that the growth of Red-legged Kittiwake chicks is enhanced during windy weather while the opposite is true for Black-

legged Kittiwake chicks.

DISCUSSION

Effects of Weather on Kittiwake Reproduction

My results agree with those of Lloyd (1985) who also found enhanced productivity of kittiwakes in cool, calm, dry summers; however, they suggest indirect rather than direct effects of weather because breeding success was not related to weather conditions during the summer breeding season. In contrast to the “bad weather” hypothesis, reproductive timing and breeding success were better explained by cool, calm, and dry weather conditions during winter and spring periods prior to the breeding season.

Negative relationships between sea surface temperatures and breeding success in seabirds have also been observed in highly productive coastal upwelling systems at lower latitudes (Ainley et al. 1995; Duffy et al. 1984) where cold water, abundant nutrients, and enhanced ocean productivity are associated. Although weather can influence primary production in the southeastern Bering Sea by affecting the temperature profile and post-bloom wind mixing of water overlying the continental shelf (Muench 1983, Sambrotto et al. 1986), and can influence ice-edge productivity prior to the spring bloom (Niebauer et al. 1995), effects of cold winters on ocean productivity are poorly understood. Regardless, parallels between the continental shelf of the Southeastern Bering Sea and coastal upwelling systems are likely superficial because processes regulating primary productivity differ between them.

Other researchers reported correlations between seabird reproduction and weather conditions preceding the breeding season, but found relationships opposite to those observed for kittiwakes on St. George Island. In the eastern Bering Sea, air temperature in May, the month preceding egg-laying, was negatively related to the timing of Black-legged Kittiwake reproduction and was curvilinearly related to the breeding success of both Black-legged Kittiwakes and Common Murres (*Uria aalge*) (Murphy et al. 1991 and

1986, respectively): kittiwakes and murres had the greatest reproductive success in years with moderately warm springs. Similarly, Common Murres in the Baltic Sea delayed reproduction in years with colder springs (Hedgren 1979) and both murres and kittiwakes at Novaya Zemlya bred later when cold winters preceded the breeding season (Belopol'skii 1957). To summarize, the relationship observed between cooler winter temperatures and both earlier breeding and enhanced reproductive performance for kittiwakes on St. George Island appears to be unique among marine birds in north temperate latitudes.

Birkhead and Harris (1985) suggested that seabirds at high latitudes exhibit greater interannual variability in timing of breeding and compressed pre-laying periods because breeding is constrained by a seasonal weather window of short duration. Faced with these temporal constraints, high latitude seabirds should breed as soon as weather and foraging conditions permit. In contrast, even in cold years with late springs, kittiwakes breeding on St. George Island have at least a 5-month window of ice-free conditions for reproduction.

What then is the ultimate factor regulating the timing of kittiwake reproduction on St. George Island? Lack (1968) viewed the general problem of reproductive timing as one of optimization: in environments where resources are seasonally abundant, birds should overlap the period of peak energetic demand with that of peak resource abundance. Thus, from an evolutionary perspective, kittiwakes on St. George Island should attempt to match their period of greatest energy requirements with the seasonal pulse in prey abundance which is coupled with the annual pulse of primary production (the spring bloom) in the Bering Sea.

For kittiwakes on St. George Island, the time lag between winter weather and the breeding season implies that winter weather has an indirect effect on reproductive timing and success. Weather conditions during the winter can indirectly affect kittiwake reproduction on St. George Island in two ways: 1) by altering foraging conditions prior to the breeding season and thereby affecting the body condition of adult kittiwakes at the

onset of the breeding season, or 2) by altering oceanographic conditions near St. George Island in a manner that affects the abundance or spatial and temporal distribution of kittiwake prey in the following breeding season.

It is difficult to understand how the winter weather conditions on St. George Island could affect winter feeding conditions of kittiwakes because only a small proportion of the kittiwake population is believed to overwinter in the vicinity of St. George Island. Although the winter distribution of kittiwakes that breed in the Bering Sea is poorly known, Red-legged Kittiwakes are believed to winter primarily in the North Pacific (Byrd and Williams 1993) and Black-legged Kittiwakes are thought to be dispersed at low densities (2-3 birds / km²) from the Bering Sea to California (Baird 1994). Only if weather conditions on St. George Island were highly correlated with weather conditions across the general winter range of kittiwakes could the "body condition" hypothesis explain the relationships observed between winter weather and kittiwake reproduction.

A more plausible hypothesis is that winter weather influences kittiwake reproduction by affecting oceanographic conditions and prey abundance near St. George Island in the following summer (Wyllie-Echeverria 1995). Air temperature and sea ice conditions in winter can have a persistent effect on oceanographic conditions by altering the temperature and salinity of continental shelf waters of the Bering Sea. During the winter, sea ice is continually formed in polynyas located along the southern margins of land masses in the northern Bering Sea and is displaced southwards by north winds where it encounters warmer water and melts (Pease 1980). Since sea ice is approximately 50% less saline than the water from which it freezes, the net effect of the southward movement of ice in the Bering Sea is a cooling and freshening of surface waters overlying the continental shelf (Muench 1983, Schumacher et al. 1979). Furthermore, cold, saline residual water from ice formation in polynyas collects in the middle-shelf domain of the Bering Sea (waters 50m - 100m deep, Fig. 3.4) and forms the "cold pool", an oceanographic feature that persists throughout summer (Takenouti and Ohtaini 1974). In

extensive ice years, the cold pool extends throughout the middle shelf domain (from the Gulf of Anadyr in the western Bering Sea to Bristol Bay in the east) while in light ice years the cold pool is restricted to the western half of the Bering Sea shelf (Fig. 3.4).

Residual effects of winter sea ice conditions on the marine ecosystem in the vicinity of St. George Island are potentially many-fold. Temperature and salinity of continental shelf water can affect ocean productivity in the southeastern Bering Sea by affecting the timing of the spring bloom, the location and structure of hydrographic fronts (Schumacher et al. 1979, Coyle and Cooney 1993), and vertical and cross-shelf movements of nutrients via energy inputs from the wind, and tides (Sambrotto et al. 1985). Furthermore, Wyllie-Echeverria (1995) proposed that the areal extent of the cold pool affects spawning and feeding distributions of walleye pollock (*Theragra chalcogramma*), an important prey species for seabirds and marine mammals in the southeastern Bering Sea, because pollock are thermally excluded from the cold pool and may become concentrated in the outer shelf domain (100m - 200m) in heavy ice years. Thus, through the action of all these processes, winter weather can indirectly affect ocean productivity and the abundance and distribution of seabird prey in the vicinity of St. George Island in the following summer.

Effects of Wind on Chick Growth Rates

Significant differences between species and effects of nest exposure on growth rates of kittiwake chicks suggest both direct and indirect effects of strong winds on chick growth. I propose that poor growth of chicks exposed to damp, windy conditions was a consequence of increased energetic demands of thermoregulation. Other studies found that wetting compromised the thermoregulatory ability of young Black-legged Kittiwake (Barrett 1978) and Dovekie (*Alle alle*) chicks (Konarzewski and Taylor 1989) and that thermal stress reduced the growth rate of Black-legged Kittiwake chicks (Barrett and Runde 1980).

In addition, differential effects of wind on chick growth rates of the two kittiwake

species suggests indirect effects of wind on provisioning rates of adult kittiwakes. Chick growth in sheltered nest sites suggest that Red-legged Kittiwakes are better able to provision their young during windy conditions while the opposite is true of Black-legged Kittiwakes; however, these patterns are not significant. Other studies indicated that wind elevates the energetic costs of foraging for Black-legged Kittiwakes (Gabrielsen et al. 1987) and that surface-feeding seabirds foraged less efficiently and provisioned chicks at lower rates when winds were strong and sea-surface conditions rough (Dunn 1973, Salt and Willard 1971, Braun and Hunt 1983, Konarzewski and Taylor 1989). Although wind may differentially effect the flight energetics of the two kittiwake species because their flight characteristics differ slightly, I propose that wind has opposite effects on chick growth of the two species because it differentially affects foraging efficiency by affecting the vulnerability of their respective prey.

Perhaps the most biologically important difference between Red-legged and Black-legged Kittiwakes is diet. While Red-legged Kittiwakes specialise on a diet of energy-rich myctophids (Schneider and Hunt 1984, Dragoo 1991, Lance 1996), Black-legged Kittiwakes are more generalist foragers that prey on juvenile (age 0) walleye pollock and a variety of other forage fishes. Differences in diet between the two species are associated with interspecific differences in foraging behavior (both temporal and spatial, Hunt et al. 1981), rates of chick provisioning (Lance 1996), morphology (Storer 1987), and breeding distributions (Schneider and Hunt 1984, Springer 1991). Myctophids are energy-rich mesopelagic fishes that are widespread in deep oceanic waters and exhibit diurnal vertical migrations: they spend the day at depth (300 - 400 m) but concentrate at the ocean surface at night to feed on vertically migrating zooplankton (Adams 1979). To encounter myctophids, Red-legged Kittiwakes on St. George Island must forage during the night at or beyond the continental shelf break 30+ km to the south of the island (Fig. 3.4).

The positive effect of wind on the growth of Red-legged Kittiwake chicks suggests that wind in some way improves the nocturnal foraging efficiency of adult Red-

legged Kittiwakes on their myctophid prey: foraging kittiwakes might use the wind to canvas a larger foraging area and thereby increase their encounter rate with myctophids or wind might affect the vertical distribution or vulnerability of myctophids. Perhaps wind and rough sea-surface conditions tumble Myctophids, exposing rows of bioluminescent photophores, which are ventrally-located (Adams 1979), to aerial predators. Although it is presently unclear why the two kittiwake species differ in their response to wind, the foraging efficiency hypothesis can easily be tested by measuring and comparing interspecific rates of food delivery to chicks during calm and windy weather.

To summarize, although Lloyd's (1985) "bad weather" hypothesis correctly predicted reduced growth rates of kittiwake chicks in exposed vs. sheltered nest sites, it does not explain enhanced growth of Red-legged Kittiwake chicks during periods of strong winds. In addition, results of multiple regression analyses contradict the "bad weather" hypothesis: kittiwake breeding success was poorly related to weather conditions during the breeding season and was better explained by indirect effects of winter weather on food web development and on the abundance and distribution of prey in the following summer. Although the "cold pool" hypothesis might explain the connection between winter weather and kittiwake breeding success, further research is required to better understand both direct and indirect effects of weather on the abundance, distribution, and vulnerability of kittiwake prey.

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Table 3.1. Multiple regression models relating several measures of kittiwake reproduction to weather.

<u>n</u>	<u>r²</u>	Models for reproductive measures of Red-legged Kittiwakes					
18	0.68	Hatch Date	=	+ 47	+ 3.3 (PCwinter ²)	+ 5.1 (PCwinter)	
17	0.54	Laying Success	=	+ 0.68	- 0.16 (PCwinter)	- 0.067 (PCwinter ²)	
17	0.36	Hatch Success	=	+ 0.58	+ 0.024 (WINDsummer)	+ 0.027 (NWINDsummer)	
16	0.51	Fledge Success	=	+ 0.67	- 0.089 (PCwinter)	- 0.017 (WINDspring)	
20	0.39	Productivity	=	+ 0.26	- 0.072 (PCwinter)	- 0.014 (WINDspring)	
<u>n</u>	<u>r²</u>	Models for reproductive measures of Black-legged Kittiwakes					
18	0.48	Hatch Date	=	+ 51	+ 0.84 (WINDspring)	- 0.69 (NWINDwinter)	
16	0.34	Laying Success	=	+ 0.57	- 0.34 (PCwinter)	- 0.0050 (PRECspring)	
16	0.56	H-F Success	=	+ 0.31	- 0.12 (PCwinter)	- 0.058 (NWINDspring)	- 0.0050 (PRECspring)
19	0.36	Productivity	=	+ 0.24	- 0.094 (PCwinter)	- 0.021 (NWINDspring)	- 0.023 (NWsummer)

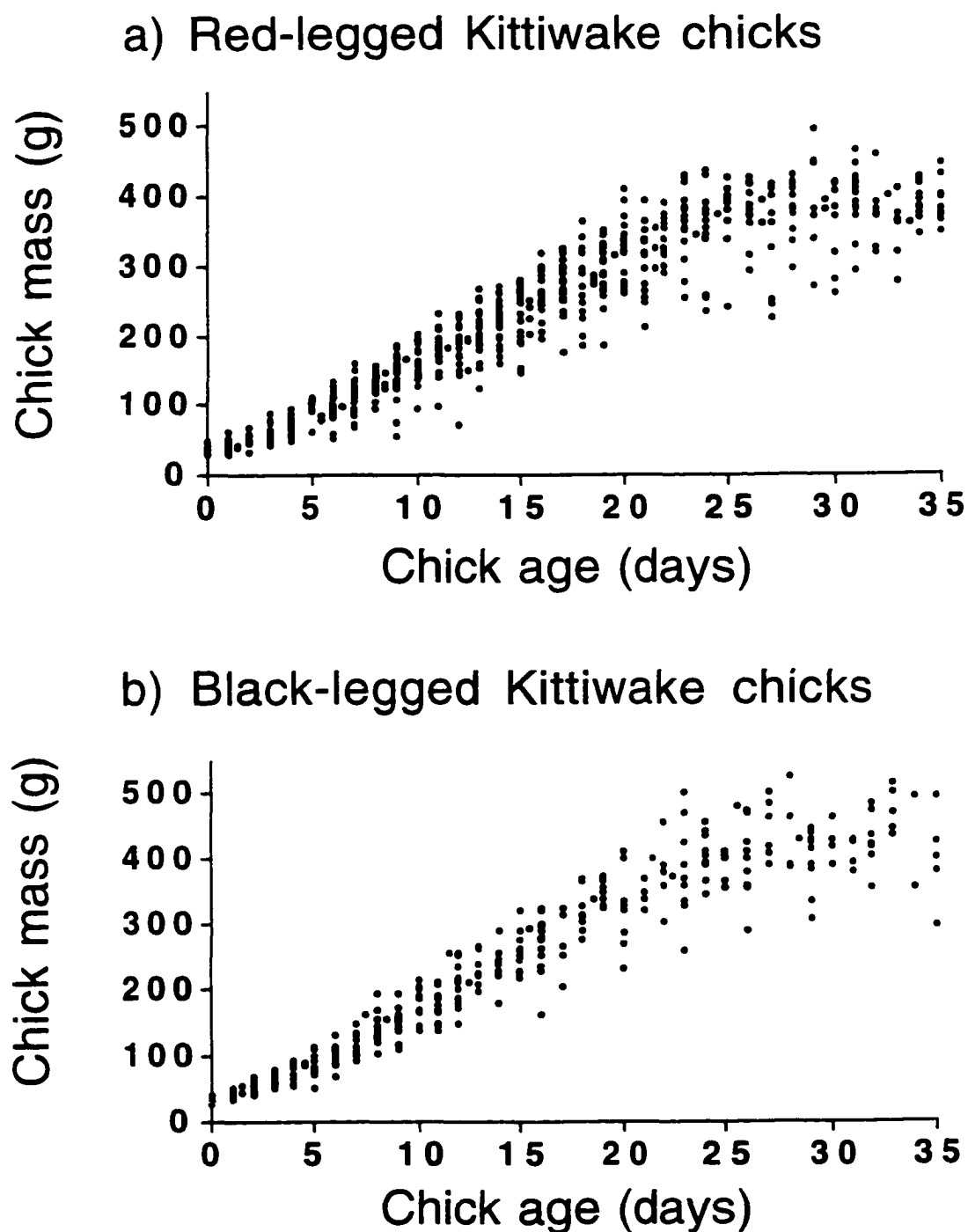


Figure 3.1. Growth trajectories for kittiwake chicks in 1993. Growth rates for Red-legged (a) and Black-legged (b) Kittiwakes were approximately linear between 4 and 25 days.

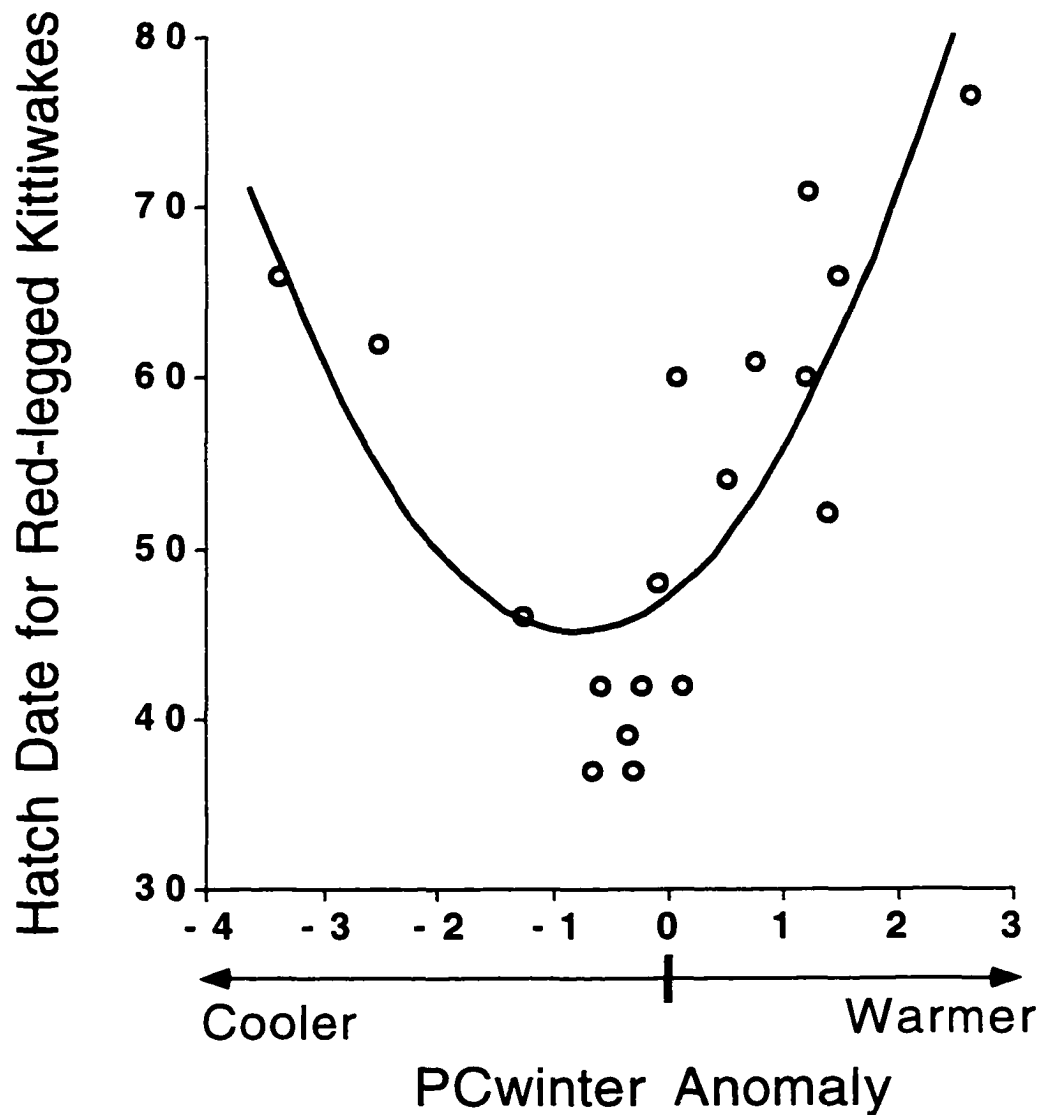


Figure 3.2. Mean hatch date of Red-legged Kittiwakes vs PCwinter. The relationship between hatch date and PCwinter (the first principal component of air temperature and sea ice conditions in winter) is curvilinear: kittiwakes bred earliest in moderately cold years and later in both warmer and extremely cold years.

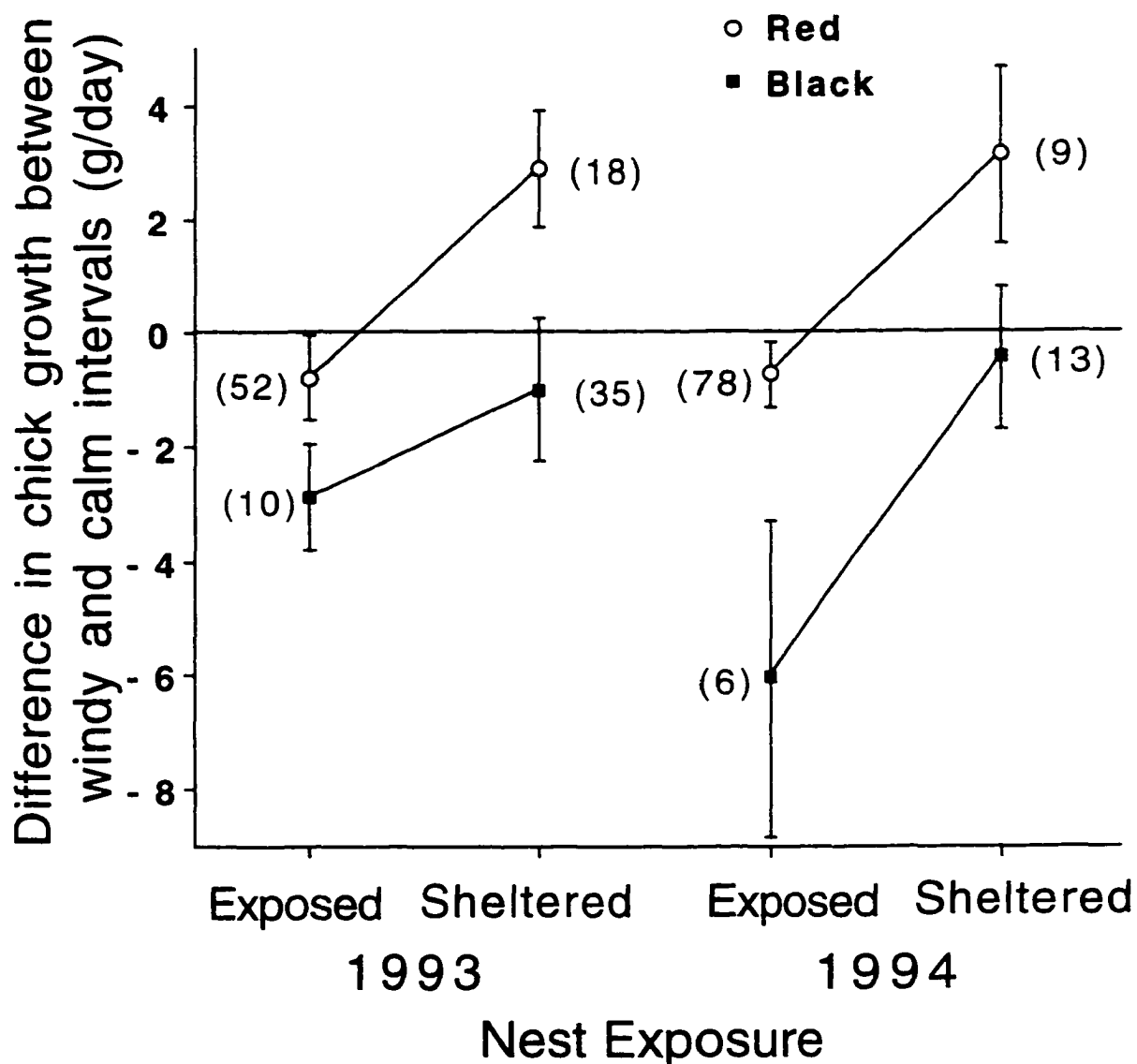


Figure 3.3. Effects of strong winds on growth rates of kittiwake chicks. Effects of wind differed significantly between Red-legged (Red) and Black-legged (Black) kittiwake chicks and between chicks in exposed vs. sheltered nest sites. Means, standard errors, and sample sizes (n) are presented.

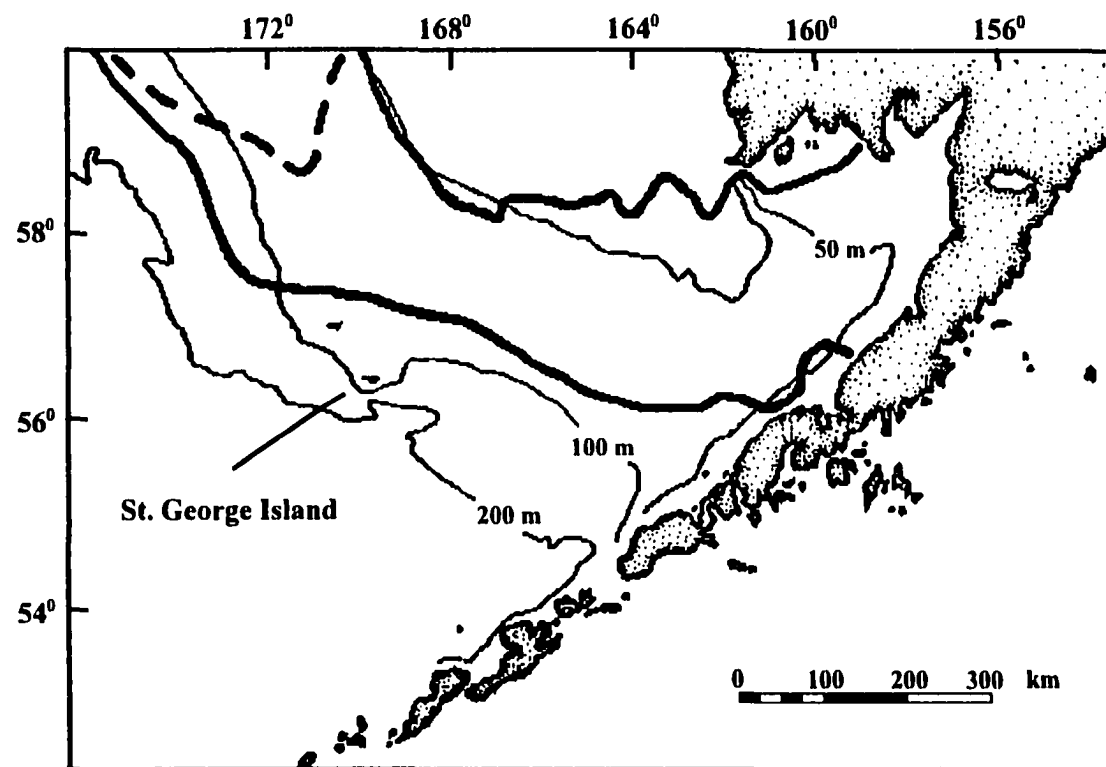


Fig. 3.4. The locations of St. George Island and the "cold pool". Minimum and maximum extents of the "cold pool" in the "middle domain" of the continental shelf of the Bering Sea (50m - 100m depth contours) are indicated by dashed and solid lines, respectively. The continental shelf break is indicated by the 200m depth contour located south of St. George Island.

WITHIN-COLONY VARIABILITY IN KITTIWAKE PRODUCTIVITY: BIRD QUALITY OR INFORMATION NEIGHBORHOODS? ⁴

ABSTRACT

We documented two patterns of within-colony variability in reproductive success of red-legged (*Rissa brevirostris*) and black-legged (*R. tridactyla*) kittiwakes on St. George Island. Productivity was greater within high-density plots located in high-elevation areas (the "High Bluff" effect) and differed significantly among plots with similar social and physical characteristics within each area (the "Within Area" effect). Neither of these patterns was caused by localized effects of food availability, predators, or weather: the three factors most often invoked to explain reproductive variability within colonies, among colonies, and among years. Although lower prevalence of ectoparasites (ticks) potentially explains greater productivity at high elevations, ticks can not explain enhanced productivity of high-density plots or Within-Area variability in productivity. Furthermore, within-colony variability is explained neither by "information center" or "social facilitation" hypotheses. In contrast, the "bird quality" hypothesis may account for greater productivity within high-density plots and variability among high-density plots at high-elevation; however, it can not explain variability within lower-density, lower-elevation, plots or the high productivity of black-legged kittiwakes within high-elevation plots. Therefore, we propose the "information neighborhood" hypothesis to explain spatial clustering of successful and failed nests within plots. Colonial breeders use the presence and breeding status of their neighbors as sources of information to better predict breeding conditions over the duration of the breeding season and to better tailor parental investment to the likelihood of a return on that investment. Exclusive predictions of

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"bird quality" and "information neighborhood" hypotheses can be tested by experimental enhancing or reducing the apparent breeding success of a series of nests, and observing the effects of these manipulations on neighboring, unmanipulated nests.

INTRODUCTION

Seabirds are classic "k-selected" species that are long-lived and exhibit low levels of annual reproductive output. Ultimately, the reproductive output of seabirds is shaped by a fitness trade-off between adult survival and breeding effort (Pugesek & Diem 1990; Jacobsen et al. 1995; Goulet et al. in press) that may be proximately mediated by adult body condition during the breeding season (Monaghan et al. 1989; Hamer et al. 1993; Chaurand & Weimerskirch 1994; Tveraa et al. 1997; Phillips et al. 1996). Typically food supply is considered the most important proximate constraint on reproductive performance of seabirds (Furness & Birkhead 1984; Monaghan et al. 1989; Harris & Wanless 1990; Hamer et al. 1993; Roberts & Hatch 1993; Phillips et al. 1996) and is believed to affect parental investment through effects on adult body condition. While food supply can explain variability in productivity among years and among colonies, it alone cannot explain spatial heterogeneity (patchiness) in productivity within colonies because seabirds forage many kilometers from breeding sites and, in principle, all individuals should have equal access to a common food resource.

Although individuals within seabird colonies potentially have equal access to food resources, foraging success of individuals may vary for stochastic reasons because prey is patchy and unpredictable in both space and time. If portions of the colony serve as localized information centers (Ward & Zahavi 1973), then differences in foraging success among different information centers could contribute to within-colony variability in productivity. Lastly, individuals nesting in high-density groups might experience enhanced foraging efficiency because, if individual benefit when foraging in groups (Gotmark et al. 1986), nesting groups can serve as "recruitment centers" for foraging groups (Evans 1982).

In contrast, within-colony variability in productivity may be better explained by the localized action of extrinsic physical factors within the colony: localized predation is an often-cited explanation for patchy productivity within seabird colonies (Maunder & Threlfall 1972; Nettleship 1972; Birkhead 1977; Harris 1980); parasites and disease can also cause differences in productivity both among and within breeding colonies (Feare 1976; Duffy 1983); and localized effects of weather may contribute to within-colony variability in chick growth rates (Kildaw 1998) and productivity (Threlfall et al. 1974; Byrd & Tobish 1978; Birkhead & Nettleship 1981).

Patchy productivity may also be a product of differences in quality among individuals (intrinsic differences in parenting abilities due to age, experience, body size), provided that some mechanism promotes localized aggregations of high-quality individuals within breeding colonies. Coulson (1968) documented spatial aggregation of "high quality" individuals (individuals with above-average productivity and survival) at the center of a black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) colony in western Britain, and proposed that high-quality individuals become spatially aggregated at the time of recruitment via intense competition for preferred nest sites in the center of the colony.

Social stimulation is another possible source of patchiness in productivity within seabird colonies: Darling (1938) proposed that social stimulation within high density aggregations results in greater reproductive synchrony and enhanced productivity via predator swamping. Although correlations between nest density and synchrony have been observed in some studies (Birkhead 1977; Burger 1979), evidence favoring the social stimulation hypothesis is equivocal (MacRoberts & MacRoberts 1972, Gochfeld 1980).

Over the past 20 years, the reproductive performance of kittiwakes in the North Pacific has been lower and has exhibited greater inter-annual variability than that of kittiwakes in the North Atlantic (Hatch et al. 1993). Although poor and variable productivity of kittiwakes on St. George Island (Dragoo & Dragoo 1996) is potentially a consequence of nest abandonment in response to low food availability, access to food cannot explain prominent patterns of within-colony variability on St. George Island. The

objective of this study was to identify patterns of within-colony variability in the reproductive success of red-legged (*R. brevirostris*) and black-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island, and to evaluate several hypotheses that potentially explain these patterns.

METHODS

Study Area

St. George Island is located in the south-eastern Bering Sea (56° 35' N 169° 35' W) and is the southern-most of the Pribilof Islands. Basalt cliffs that comprise most (40 km) of the island's perimeter support one of the largest assemblages of breeding seabirds in the North Pacific, including estimated breeding populations of 193,900 red-legged and 62,500 black-legged kittiwakes (Kildaw 1998). Kittiwake nests were not uniformly distributed within available habitat, rather they were aggregated into identifiable clusters or subcolonies. Furthermore, although both species nest in equal numbers within low-elevation areas, red-legged kittiwakes nest at extremely high densities within high-elevation areas in the northwestern corner of the island where they outnumber black-legged kittiwakes 22:1 (Kildaw 1998).

Reproductive Data

We monitored the reproductive performance of red-legged and black-legged kittiwakes on nest-mapping plots that were distributed around the perimeter of St. George Island at locations where nests could be viewed from a nearby (< 200 m), cliff-top vantage point. Plots were not randomly selected: most were located within 100 m of the cliff top and were concentrated in areas where the cliff edge was more convoluted. We monitored kittiwake reproduction on a total of 211 nest-mapping plots in each summer of 1993 - 1995 and on 132 additional plots in 1994 and 1995. In each year we visited mapping plots during early-laying (early June) and mid-incubation periods (early July) and marked the locations of nest attempts (sites with a level disk of nest material estimated to be > 15 cm in diameter and > 5 cm thick at the seaward edge) directly onto

laminated, 5" x 7" photographs of each plot using a permanent marker. We determined the reproductive fate of marked nests just prior to the initiation of fledging, classifying nests that were either empty or no longer present as "failed" and nests that contained large chicks with visible tail feathers or complete contour feather coverage on their backs and wings as "successful" (18 - 20 days old, pers. obs.). Although the minimum fledging age of kittiwake chicks is approximately 30 - 35 days (Maunder & Threlfall 1972), little mortality occurs after 20 days in either species (pers. obs.); thus, survival to 20 days is a good proxy for survival to fledging. If, during the initial pre-fledging visit, one or more nests on a plot could not be classified as either successful or failed (because they contained young chicks or nest contents were obscured by adults), we re-visited the plot every 10 - 14 days until the fate of all nests was determined. In the few instances where nest fate could not be determined prior to the end of the field season, we classified nests containing chicks on the last visit as "successful" and all others as "failed". For each species on each plot we tallied the number of successful and failed nests and determined productivity (successful nests / nest attempts).

In addition, we estimated the elevation of each plot from a detailed topographic map of St. George Island, categorizing the elevation of each plot as either low (0 - 100 m), medium (>100 m - 200 m), or high (> 200 m). We categorized the general aspect of the cliff within 1 km of each plot as either north (N, NE, NW) or other (all other directions) and assigned an ordinal nest density score (low, medium, high) to each plot based on the number and spatial distribution of nests: high-density plots contained > 15 nests, of which > 50% were either centrally located (vs. peripherally located, where the external angle formed by a line connecting any three adjacent peripheral nests > 90°), or were located within 2 kittiwake body lengths of ≥ 3 other nests. Medium-density plots contained ≥ 10 nests, of which 20% - 50% were either centrally located or were located within 2 kittiwake body lengths of ≥ 3 other nests. All remaining plots were categorized as "low-density". We determined species composition of each plot (red-legged kittiwake nests/total nests), and categorized the number of nests of each species as one of the

following size classes: 1 - 9 nests, 10 - 19 nests, 20 - 40 nests, and > 40 nests.

Assessing Variability among Plots

We compared kittiwake productivity among plots by performing a G (log-likelihood ratio) test of independence for each species, within each year, and restricted these analyses to plots with > 5 nests to ensure that average expected counts exceeded 6 nests per cell (Zar 1996). Because of nearly complete reproductive failure of black-legged kittiwakes in 1995 (only 7 of 1007 nests on study plots fledged chicks), we excluded data for black-legged kittiwakes in 1995 from this and all subsequent analyses. For each species in each year, we graphically compared the observed distribution of plot productivities to that expected from a random distribution which was generated (via 1000 iterations) by calculating the overall productivity of a given species in a given year and assuming that the reproductive fates of nests were independent of one another.

We then performed a series of univariate analyses for each species within each year to determine effects of physical factors (plot elevation and aspect) and social factors (nest density and species composition) on kittiwake productivity (Mann-Whitney U tests for factors with two levels, Kruskal-Wallis tests for factors with > 2 levels). Univariate analyses were not conclusive because they were confounded by inter-correlations between factors which all differed markedly between the high- and low-elevation areas of St. George Island. Although we could not perform the appropriate 4-factor analysis required to disentangle the effects of these inter-related factors (because all combinations of factors do not exist on St. George Island), we were able to evaluate the effects of nest density and plot elevation on the productivity of each species by restricting the analysis to a sample of plots that shared attributes of the other two factors: for red-legged kittiwakes we performed a two-factor ANOVA on rank-transformed productivity data using a subset of plots that were all north-facing, and were > 50 % red-legged kittiwake in species composition. We merged low and medium elevation categories in this analysis because of small sample sizes at low elevations. For black-legged kittiwakes, we performed a similar

analysis on data from north-facing plots but merged medium and high elevation categories to compensate for small sample sizes at high elevation. In addition, we included all plots regardless of species composition in this analysis because we lacked sufficient data to otherwise restrict the analysis. I also restricted analyses to plots with data in all three years for red-legged kittiwakes and in both 1993 and 1994 for black-legged kittiwakes. Furthermore, to reduce the unwarranted influence of plots with very few nests (hence productivity is highly variable due to binomial "noise") or very many nests, we weighted plots with fewer than 10 nests by a factor of " $\# \text{ nests} / 10$ ".

To determine whether effects of elevation, aspect, nest density, plot size, and species composition accounted for within-colony variability in kittiwake productivity, we performed G tests on samples of plots that shared all of these characteristics in common. We limited these analyses to red-legged kittiwakes only (we lacked sufficient data for analyses of black-legged kittiwakes) and restricted samples to north-facing plots that were > 50% red-legged kittiwake in species composition. We pooled samples from adjacent size categories where the number of plots within a given elevation x density x size category did not exceed 5, and excluded plots with fewer than 10 nests to ensure that mean expected cell counts in these analyses were > 6 (Zar 1996). Finally, we did not perform analyses for samples in which the mean expected frequency of either successful or failed nests across plots was < 1.

Assessing Plot and Nest-Site Consistency among Years

We assessed plot consistency across years using samples of plots that were observed in each year of the study, were located on north-facing cliffs, were > 50 % red-legged kittiwake in species composition, and that shared characteristics of elevation, nest density, and plot size. For red-legged kittiwakes, we evaluated among-year consistency in rankings of productivity among plots for these samples using Kendall's coefficient of concordance (Zar 1996), but did not perform analyses for black-legged kittiwakes because of insufficient data.

We evaluated among-year consistency in the productivity of individual red-legged kittiwake nest sites using data from 9 high-, 13 medium-, and 10 low-density plots that were all located at high-elevation, were north-facing, and were > 50 % red-legged kittiwake in species composition. We did not perform similar analyses for black-legged kittiwakes, or for red-legged kittiwakes at low elevation. Kittiwakes on St. George Island exhibit high annual survival (Dragoo & Dragoo 1996) and fidelity to mates and nest sites between years. For example, banded red-legged kittiwakes within one high-density plot at high-elevation exhibited 83% inter-annual nest-site fidelity over the three years of this study (D. Kildaw, unpublished data). Although high fidelity appears to be the general rule for kittiwakes (ref), mass relocations of banded kittiwakes were observed within one low-elevation area on St. George Island between 1995 and 1996 breeding seasons (D. Kildaw, unpublished data), and suggested that fidelity may be variable and localized. In these analyses, we assumed that consistency in nest-site productivity across years reflects consistency of breeding pairs occupying those sites.

We evaluated nest-site consistency across all three years of the study (1993-1995) by performing goodness-of-fit, G tests on data pooled from all plots within each density category. Prior to pooling, we tallied the number of nests within each plot that exhibited extreme productivity (either succeeded or failed in all 3 years) and the number that exhibited mixed reproductive fates across years. We computed expected values for G tests using the overall productivity (# successful nests / total nest attempts) of each plot in each year and assuming that nest fate in one year was independent of nest fate in other years (the null hypothesis). Within each nest density category, we then pooled both observed and expected counts across plots for both extreme, and mixed-fate nest categories, and performed a G test on the resulting totals. If nest sites exhibit consistent productivity across years, then the "extreme" category will be significantly over-represented in the sample.

Predator Observations

To evaluate the contribution of patchy predation to within-colony variability in reproductive performance, we conducted opportunistic observations of the activities of predators in the vicinity of bird breeding cliffs during the summers of 1993-95. Potential predators of kittiwake eggs, nestlings, and adults on St. George Island include arctic foxes (Alopex lagopus), larid gulls (primarily non-breeding glaucous-winged gulls, Larus glaucescens), and several common ravens (Corvus corax). We also monitored the reproductive fate of approximately 500 kittiwake nests accessed by rope or ladder every 3 - 5 days and documented any evidence of predation on eggs or chicks.

Parasites

For 5 plots at high elevation, and 16 plots at low elevation, we used palpation to document the presence or absence of ticks (Ixodes spp.) on nestling kittiwakes during periodic weighings conducted every 3 -5 days from hatching to an age of 35 days. For each plot in each year we determined the number of red-legged and black-legged kittiwake chicks that survived > 7 days (to exclude newly hatched chicks with limited exposure to ticks) and determined the proportion of chicks of each species that were infested with ticks at any time during development. We compared tick infestation (# infested chicks / total chicks) between the two species with a Wilcoxon paired-sample test, pairing within each plot and pooling data from all years. Following these preliminary analyses, we pooled data from the two species (infestation did not differ between species) and compared infestation between elevations and among years with a two-factor ANOVA performed on rank-transformed data.

RESULTS

Variability among Plots

G tests indicated that productivity differed significantly among plots for red-legged kittiwakes in all three years (all P < 0.001) and for black-legged kittiwakes in

1993 and 1994 (we disregarded data for black-legged kittiwakes in 1995 in this and all subsequent analyses because of nearly total reproductive failure). For both species in all years, nests within plots shared a common reproductive fate to a greater extent than was expected by chance (binomial variation), and plot productivities were over-distributed relative to expected distributions (e.g., Fig. 4.1).

To determine the origin of among-plot variability, we performed univariate analyses on each species in each year for five factors that potentially influence kittiwake reproductive success. We found that productivity was significantly greater ($P > 0.05$) for high-density (5/5 tests), high-elevation (3/5 tests), plots that were $> 50\%$ red-legged kittiwake in species composition (2/5 tests), and were north-facing (1/5 tests). Unfortunately, these 5 factors differed markedly and jointly between plots at high-elevation and low-elevation areas of the island; hereafter, we refer to the joint affect of these factors as the "High Bluff" effect.

We evaluated the contribution of nest density and plot elevation to the "High Bluff" effect by performing a two-factor ANOVA for each species in each year using north-facing plots that were $> 50\%$ red-legged kittiwake in species composition. For red-legged kittiwakes we found significant effects of density in all three years (1993: $F_{2,135} = 9.1$, $P = 0.0002$, 1994: $F_{2,135} = 10.7$, $P = 0.0001$, 1995: $F_{2,135} = 5.8$, $P = 0.004$), significant effects of elevation in 1994 ($F_{1,135} = 25.5$, $P = 0.0001$) and 1995 ($F_{1,135} = 9.1$, $P = 0.003$), but no density x elevation interaction in any year (Fig. 4.2). For black-legged kittiwakes we found significant effects of only nest density in both 1993 ($F_{2,79} = 4.8$, $P = 0.011$) and 1994 ($F_{2,79} = 11.7$, $P = 0.0001$), the only years tested (Fig. 4.3). Visual inspection of Figs. 4.2 and 4.3 suggests that, for both species, productivity was greater on high-density plots and, for red-legged kittiwakes, productivity was greater at high elevation in 1994 and 1995.

To determine whether the "High Bluff" effect explained within-colony variability in kittiwake productivity on St. George Island, we controlled for the High Bluff effect by performing G tests on sub-samples of plots that shared physical and social characteristics

in common. These "within area" analyses were restricted to red-legged kittiwakes only. Of 13 G -tests performed on samples of high-elevation plots, 11 indicated significant variability in productivity among plots ($P < 0.05$). Of 9 such analyses for plots within the two lower-elevation categories, 8 revealed significant variability among plots ($P < 0.05$). Thus, the High Bluff effect does not account for all among-plot variability because significant variability exists even among plots that share all characteristics of aspect, elevation, nest density, plot size, and species composition (e.g., Fig. 4.4). Hereafter we refer to variability among plots with similar characteristics as the "Within Area" effect.

Plot and Nest-Site Consistency among Years

We evaluated plot consistency across the three years of the study using Kendall's concordance analysis and found consistency ($P < 0.05$) among high-elevation, high-density plots (2 of 2 tests) but a lack of consistency ($P > 0.05$) among plots for all other combinations of density and elevation tested (9 of 9 tests); however, in all tests lacking statistical significance, there was a trend toward consistency among years, and for three of these analyses $P < 0.10$.

We performed G -tests on the fate of individual nest sites among years and determined that the reproductive fate of breeding pairs was more consistent than expected by chance within high-density plots ($n = 422$, $G_1 = 12.5$, $P < 0.001$), but not within medium ($n = 246$, $G_1 = 3.2$, $P > 0.05$), or low-density plots ($n = 68$, $G_1 = 0.64$, $P > 0.05$).

Predator Observations

Predators are not an important source of nest failure for kittiwakes breeding on St. George Island. Larid gulls are abundant along the coastal cliffs of St. George; however, they did not harass nesting kittiwakes and did not remove kittiwake eggs even from unattended nest sites. We observed several instances where abandoned kittiwake eggs remained at the nest site for more than a month before eventually disappearing. Furthermore, although arctic foxes do obtain some kittiwake eggs early in the season

(pers. obs.). foxes cannot access most kittiwake nests sites and target murre eggs (murre eggs are more numerous, and 2-3x the volume of a kittiwake egg) as soon as murre begin laying (pers. obs.).

Parasites

Tick infestation did not differ between red-legged and black-legged kittiwakes (Sign rank = 0, $n = 9$, $P = 1.0$); therefore, we pooled species within each plot prior to subsequent analyses. A two-factor ANOVA performed on rank-transformed data indicated that tick infestation differed among years ($F_{2,39}$ $df = 25.1$, $P < 0.001$) and was significantly greater for plots at low vs. high elevation ($F_{1,39}$ $df = 10.5$, $P = 0.002$). In addition, the year x elevation interaction was significant ($F_{2,39}$ $df = 4.8$, $P = 0.01$), indicating that the relationship between tick infestation and year differed between high and low elevation areas. In 1993, infestation was negligible within both low- and high-elevation areas, but in 1994 and 1995 infestation was greater within low-elevation plots (Fig. 4.5).

DISCUSSION

We found significantly greater spatial heterogeneity (patchiness) in kittiwake reproductive performance than could be explained by the null expectation of a random and independent distribution of reproductive fate among nest sites. Nests within plots shared a common reproductive fate to a greater degree than was expected by chance. Univariate analyses suggested that several factors (aspect, elevation, nest density, and species composition) potentially influence the productivity of both kittiwake species and further analyses, which controlled for elevation and species composition, revealed that kittiwake productivity was positively related to both density of nests and elevation.

We identified two prominent patterns of within-island variability in kittiwake productivity: 1) the "High Bluff" effect - regional differences in productivity within the island, and 2) the "Within Area" effect - variability among plots with similar physical and

social characteristics. Although the High Bluff effect was apparent in both species, we restrict our discussion to red-legged kittiwakes because data for black-legged kittiwakes were insufficient to evaluate Within Area effects or to perform additional analyses necessary to evaluate the several hypotheses for within-colony variability that we address below.

Predation

Although localized predation is a potential source of reproductive variability, it cannot explain patterns of productivity observed in this study because predation was not a significant source of nest failure for kittiwakes on St. George Island during this study. Indeed, the absence of aerial predators on St. George Island presents a rare opportunity to study the action of other factors in the absence of the confounding effects of predation. When predators are abundant it is difficult to distinguish true predation events from instances of opportunistic predation on abandoned eggs and chicks.

Weather

Localized weather conditions are not responsible for the High Bluff effect because differences in reproductive performance between high- and low-elevation areas are contrary to patterns predicted by the weather hypothesis: kittiwakes exhibited enhanced reproductive performance at high, vs. low elevations despite being exposed to generally colder (an elevation effect), wetter (due to persistent fog), and windier conditions (pers. obs.). Furthermore, weather does not explain Within Area variability in kittiwake productivity because productivity varied among plots even though they shared characteristics of both elevation and aspect, and hence experienced similar weather conditions.

Parasites

Hard ticks (*Ixodes* spp.) are widespread and abundant hematophagous ecto-

parasites of seabirds that may affect seabird reproduction directly through blood loss or indirectly by transmitting parasites and disease (Feare 1976; Nuttall 1984). *Ixodes uriae*, a generalist seabird tick, requires three separate blood meals and 4 or more years to complete its life cycle (Eveleigh & Threlfall 1974). Because ticks are only attached to their hosts for the 5 - 7 days necessary to obtain each blood meal, overlapping generations of ticks spend most of their lives associated with nesting substrate within seabird colonies (Eveleigh & Threlfall 1974).

Kittiwake productivity was negatively related to tick infestation both between elevations and across years. Thus, tick infestation potentially explains differences in reproductive performance between high and low elevation areas (the High Bluff effect). Productivity of both kittiwake species did not differ between elevation categories in 1993, a year of low tick abundance in both low, and high-elevation areas; however, productivity declined overall in both 1994 and 1995, years in which tick infestation was greater overall, and was particularly suppressed at low elevation (Figs. 4.2 + 4.3) where infestation was particularly severe (Fig. 4.5). In contrast, ticks are not responsible for the Within Area effect because productivity varied significantly among plots in 1993, despite negligible levels of tick infestation throughout the study area.

As a cautionary note, the correlations between productivity and tick infestation do not necessarily imply causation. Although ticks potentially influence kittiwake productivity, high rates of tick infestation may be a consequence, rather than a cause, of low reproductive success. In years of poor productivity, ticks might become concentrated on the few available nestlings within each plot. Furthermore, the observed pattern of greater parasite infestation at low-density, low-elevation areas of St. George Island runs counter to the pattern of positive density dependence predicted by theory and observed for other species of seabirds (Eveleigh & Threlfall 1974). One possible explanation for this contradiction is that colder, windier weather conditions at High Bluff are less conducive to overwinter survival of ticks.

Enhanced Foraging Efficiency

The information center hypothesis proposes that individuals in colonies may benefit by exploiting information provided by other foragers (either intentionally or unintentionally) on the location of high quality foraging areas (Ward & Zahavi 1973). If plots serve as localized information centers, then Within Area variability in kittiwake productivity could result from differences in the effectiveness of local information centers and the High Bluff effect could be a consequence of better information within high-density plots. On the other hand, although seabirds may exchange information within foraging areas through "network foraging" (Wittenberger & Hunt 1985) and may orient towards returning foragers when loafing or en route to foraging areas (Burger 1997), evidence that seabirds colonies potentially serve as localized information centers is equivocal (e.g., Waltz 1987, vs. Gotmark 1990), and is limited to species that have short transit times to foraging areas relative to the persistence of resource patches (Greene 1987; Waltz 1987). In contrast, kittiwakes on St. George Island typically forage 40 - 100+ km from the colony (Schneider & Hunt 1984) on ephemeral prey patches that do not persist long enough for departing individuals to benefit from information from returning foragers. Indeed, recent observations of the foraging patterns of black-legged kittiwakes suggest that individuals do not exploit information centers; rather, they use habitual foraging areas which differ among colony members and even between individuals of mated pairs (Irons 1998).

Alternately, effects of density on kittiwake productivity may arise because individuals benefit by foraging in groups and breeding colonies serve as "recruitment centers" (Evans 1982) for foraging groups. Although flock-foraging advantages have been documented for kittiwakes (Bayer 1983) and other larids (Gotmark et al. 1986), foraging groups can form spontaneously within foraging areas without the benefit of the recruitment centers. Furthermore, there is no evidence that recruitment of foraging groups at the breeding colony is restricted within localized clusters of individuals.

Bird Quality Hypothesis

Within-island variability in kittiwake productivity is potentially a consequence of spatial segregation of individuals that differ intrinsically in foraging or parenting abilities. Coulson (1968) proposed that intense competition among black-legged kittiwakes for preferred nest sites at the colony center promoted spatial segregation of individuals that differed intrinsically in both reproductive performance and probability of survival. On St. George Island, kittiwakes prefer nest sites located within high-density plots of conspecifics (Kildaw, in press); therefore, consistently greater productivity of kittiwakes in high vs. low-density plots (the High Bluff effect) might be a consequence of the aggregation of high-quality individuals within high-density plots via Coulson's mechanism. In contrast, the bird-quality hypothesis cannot explain high productivity of black-legged kittiwakes within high-elevation plots because it predicts the highest-quality black-legged kittiwakes should recruit into low-elevation plots that are numerically dominated by black-legged kittiwakes.

Furthermore, the bird quality hypothesis potentially explains Within Area variability in kittiwake productivity because bird quality may differ among plots despite similarities in physical and social characteristics. We evaluated two predictions of the bird quality hypothesis, that plot and individual nest sites should exhibit inter-annual reproductive consistency, but found plot and nest-site consistency only among high-density plots located at high elevations. These analyses assume that nest-site fidelity of kittiwakes is uniformly high across all categories of nest density and elevation. On the other hand, although kittiwakes generally exhibit high fidelity on St. George Island (D. Kildaw, unpublished data) and elsewhere (Coulson & Thomas 1983), widespread relocations of banded kittiwakes observed within a low-elevation area on St. George Island between 1995 and 1996 breeding seasons, potentially explain the lack of breeding consistency observed in lower-density and lower-elevation plots.

Regardless, patchy bird quality potentially explains some within-colony patterns of kittiwake productivity; however, its proposed proximate mechanism (the preference of

kittiwakes for high density aggregations of conspecifics) requires an ultimate explanation. High density groups may attract higher quality recruits because, in addition to anti-predator advantages of grouping (Birkhead 1977; Anderson & Hodum 1993), recent studies suggest that prospecting kittiwakes may also use the presence and reproductive performance of established breeders as indicators of local habitat quality (Forbes & Kaiser 1994; Boulinier et al. 1996).

Social Information and the "Information Neighborhood"

Spatial clustering of successful and failed nests within plots and enhanced productivity of high-density groups suggest that breeding kittiwakes may be influenced by the presence of neighbors; however, the "social stimulation" hypothesis originally proposed by Darling (1938) is not tenable because its proposed mechanism and ultimate explanation (predator swamping via breeding synchrony) is not applicable on St. George Island (predation is not an important source of nest failure). Therefore, we propose a new concept, the "information neighborhood" hypothesis, to explain spatial clustering of successful and failed nests and Within Area effects on St. George Island that can function in the absence of "selfish herd" benefits or "information centers".

Recent research has shown that information provided by the presence and reproductive success of breeding seabirds is a valuable commodity that shapes nest-site selection of prospecting seabirds and demographic trends within breeding colonies (Forbes & Kaiser 1994; Boulinier et al. 1996; Danchin & Wagner 1997). The "information neighborhood" hypothesis is a related concept which proposes that colonial breeders use the presence and breeding status of their neighbors as a source of information to better predict breeding conditions over the duration of the breeding season and to better tailor parental investment to the likelihood of return on that investment. An inherent assumption of this hypothesis is that breeders are faced with a fitness tradeoff between current and future fecundity; otherwise there can be no cost of reproduction and, by definition, no parental investment. Survival and fecundity costs of reproduction have

been documented experimentally for kittiwakes (Jacobsen et al. 1995; Goulet et al. in press) and for other seabirds (Wernham & Bryant 1998).

Foraging success of individuals is highly variable because prey of pelagic seabirds is patchy and unpredictable in both time and space. As a consequence, the average foraging success of a group of individuals is likely a better predictor of future conditions than is the foraging success of a single individual. Thus, breeders that use the reproductive status of neighbors as a surrogate measure of their foraging experiences, can more accurately assess general, and thus, future foraging conditions. Furthermore, although the information neighborhood hypothesis can function in a predator vacuum, where predators are an important source of reproductive failure and the breeding status of neighbors influences predation risk (Birkhead 1977; Anderson & Hodum 1993; Murphy & Schauer 1996), breeders can also use the "information neighborhood" to better predict predation risk over the course of the breeding season and better tailor parental investment to the likelihood of return on that investment.

Individuals in good body condition experience little cost of reproduction (little fitness tradeoff between current and future reproduction) and should not be influenced by their neighbors. Likewise, individuals in poor body condition faced with extreme costs of reproduction should curtail parental investment regardless of the reproductive status of their neighbors. In contrast, individuals in marginal body condition should exploit the information neighborhood because in doing so they can better match their level of parental investment to their likelihood of successful reproduction. Where neighbors are doing poorly reproductively, individuals in marginal body condition should curtail parental investment because prospects for a fitness return on that investment are poor. On the other hand, where neighbors are doing well reproductively, individuals in marginal body condition should continue providing parental investment because prospects are better for a fitness return on that investment. For example an individual that has by chance encountered poor foraging conditions in the past several weeks should persist with breeding if most of its neighbors encountered good foraging conditions over that

same time period because they suggest that future foraging conditions will be better than that indicated by its own foraging experiences.

The "information neighborhood" can only explain patchy productivity if neighborhoods are localized within breeding colonies. Ideally, breeders should make use of information from as many other colony mates as possible. However, constraints on acquisition of information may limit the effective scope of the "information neighborhood" to nearby individuals only. Although breeders can obtain productivity (proportion of nests which are active) information from hundreds of nests with little cost of assessment, productivity is a crude measure that integrates cumulative breeding conditions over a long window of time. On the other hand, cliff nesting seabirds spend long periods incubating and brooding at the nest site, and potentially can obtain more detailed and current information on breeding conditions from immediate neighbors. For example, breeders could monitor feeding rates of chicks, patterns of mate exchange, patterns of nest attendance (in particular, periods of temporary nest abandonment that might reflect energetic stress), and local prevalence and success of predators. Relative to productivity information, local information is current, more detailed, and more reliable as a predictor of future breeding conditions.

Conclusions

In this study we document patchiness in productivity of a cliff-nesting seabird at a spatial scale rarely addressed by seabird ecologists. Moreover, these patterns cannot be explained by localized effects of predators, foraging conditions, or weather, three factors traditionally invoked to explain reproductive variability within colonies, among colonies, and among years. Furthermore, parasites, which can influence productivity (Feare 1976; Duffy 1983) and demographic patterns within seabird colonies (Danchin & Monnat 1992; Boulinier & Danchin 1996), can only partially account for these patterns. In the absence of predation, we propose that bird quality may explain enhanced productivity of kittiwakes in high-density groups and that Within Area variability may be a product of

bird quality or localized "information neighborhoods".

Although our results are consistent with the "information neighborhood" hypothesis, our observational data cannot be used to rigorously test this hypothesis. On the other hand, the "information neighborhood" hypothesis generates experimentally testable predictions that are distinct from bird quality, social facilitation, and information center hypotheses. For example, reproductive performance of "experimental" nests can be manipulated via removal of eggs or food supplementation (e.g. Wernham & Bryant 1998), and the response of neighboring, unmanipulated "focal" nests could be monitored. In the absence of predators, the information neighborhood hypothesis exclusively predicts treatment effects on the parental investment of "focal" adults that should be manifest as differences in productivity and/or chick growth rates.

Beyond its potential to explain reproductive variability among subcolonies and the clustering of successful and failed nest sites within subcolonies, the information neighborhood hypothesis has implications for our general understanding of the evolution of coloniality in species dependent on unpredictable food resources. A universal advantage of coloniality may be the potential for information exchange among individuals which can be employed to make adaptive decisions (e.g. Danchin & Wagner 1997).

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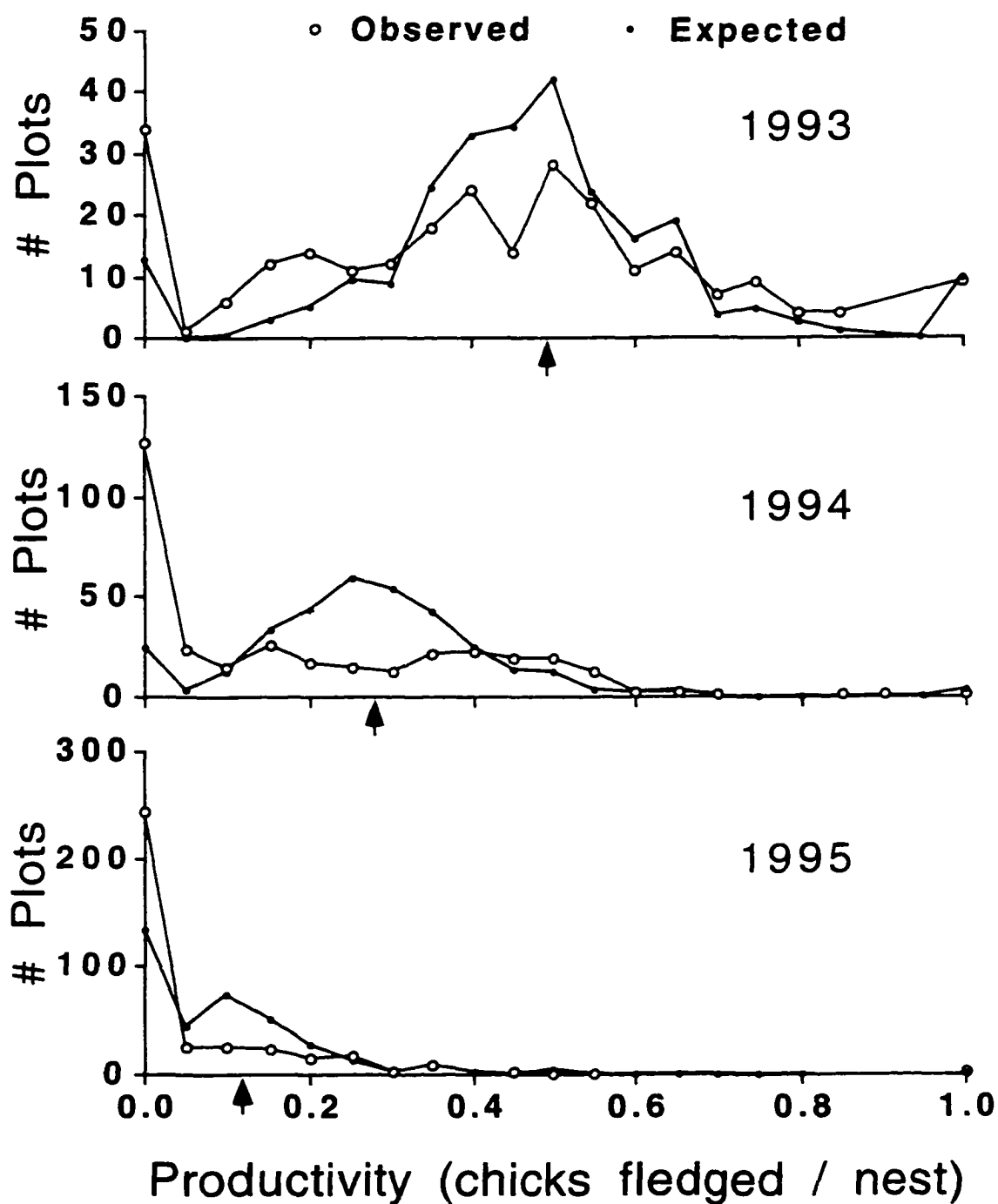


Figure 4.1. Observed and expected distributions of kittiwake productivity. Data for red-legged kittiwakes in 1993, 1994, and 1995 are presented. Expected values are over-distributed relative to expected distributions. Arrows denote annual mean productivity.

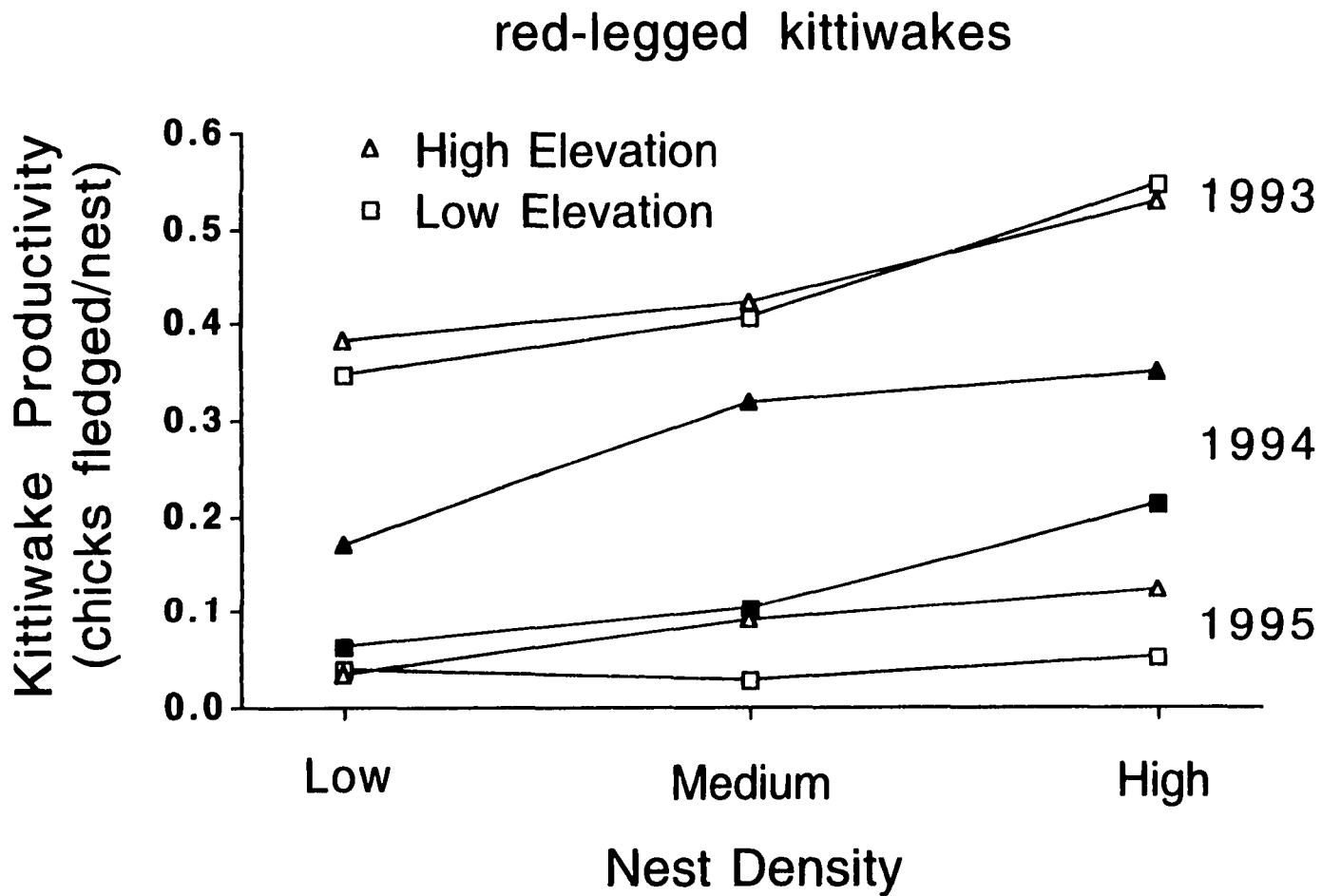


Figure 4.2. Within-island patterns of red-legged kittiwake productivity. Productivity was greater on high-density plots in all years, and was greater on high-elevation plots in 1994 and 1995.

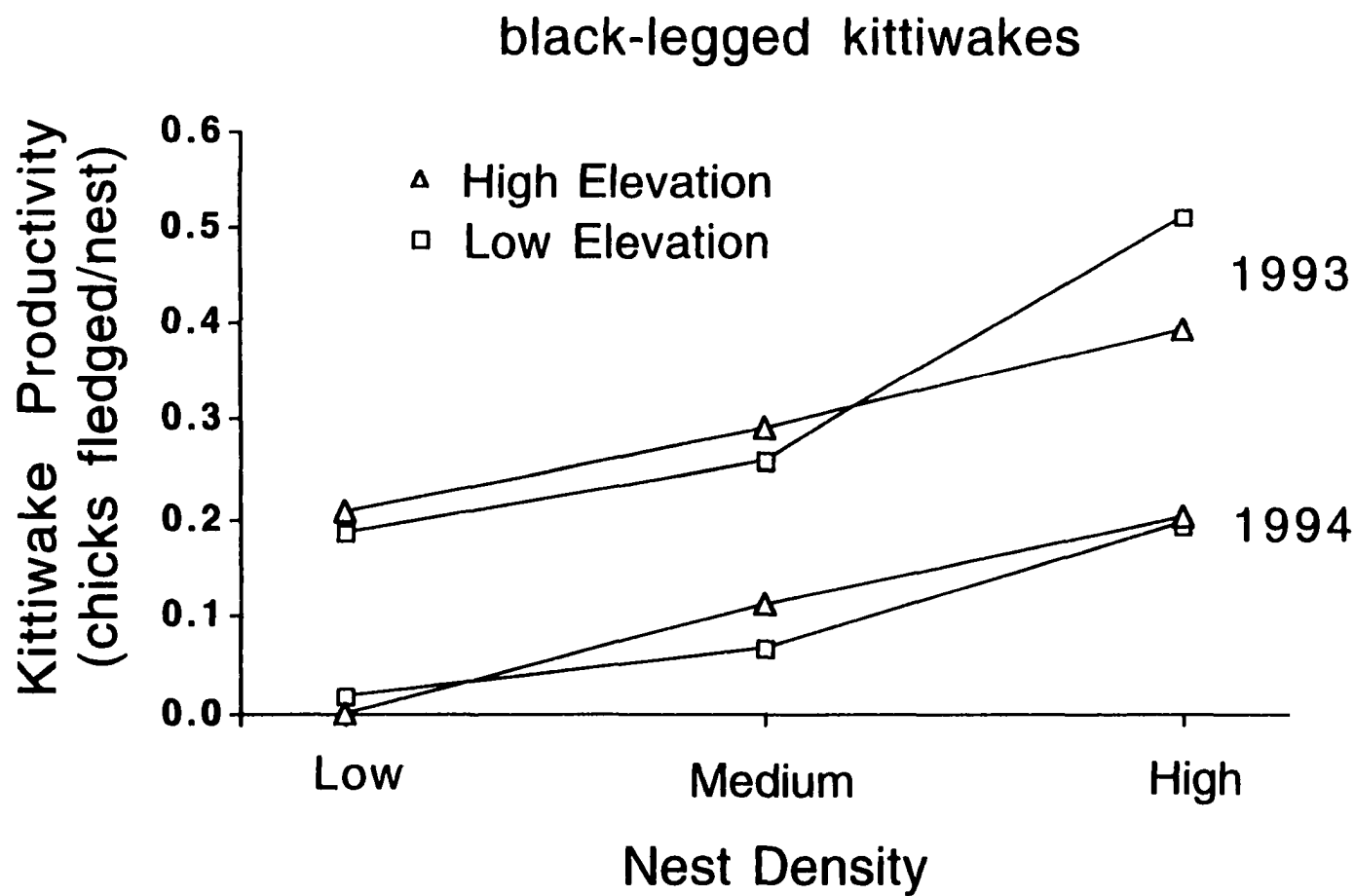


Figure 4.3. Within-island patterns of black-legged kittiwake productivity. Productivity was greater on high-density plots in both years, but did not differ between high- and low-elevation plots in either year.

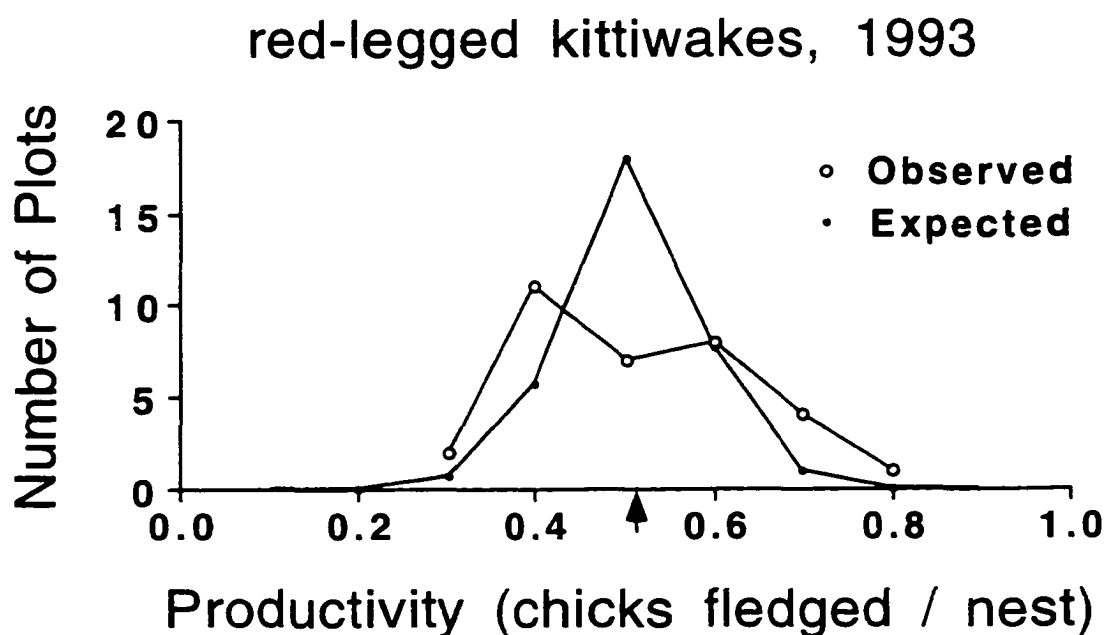


Figure 4.4. Observed and expected distributions of red-legged kittiwake productivity on plots with similar physical and social characteristics. Data are from 1993 for 33 plots that were north-facing, high-elevation, high-density, > 50% red-legged kittiwake in species composition, and contained > 40 nests / plot. Observed values were over-distributed relative to the expected distribution because nests within plots shared a common reproductive fate to a greater degree than expected by chance. Arrow denotes mean productivity of these plots.

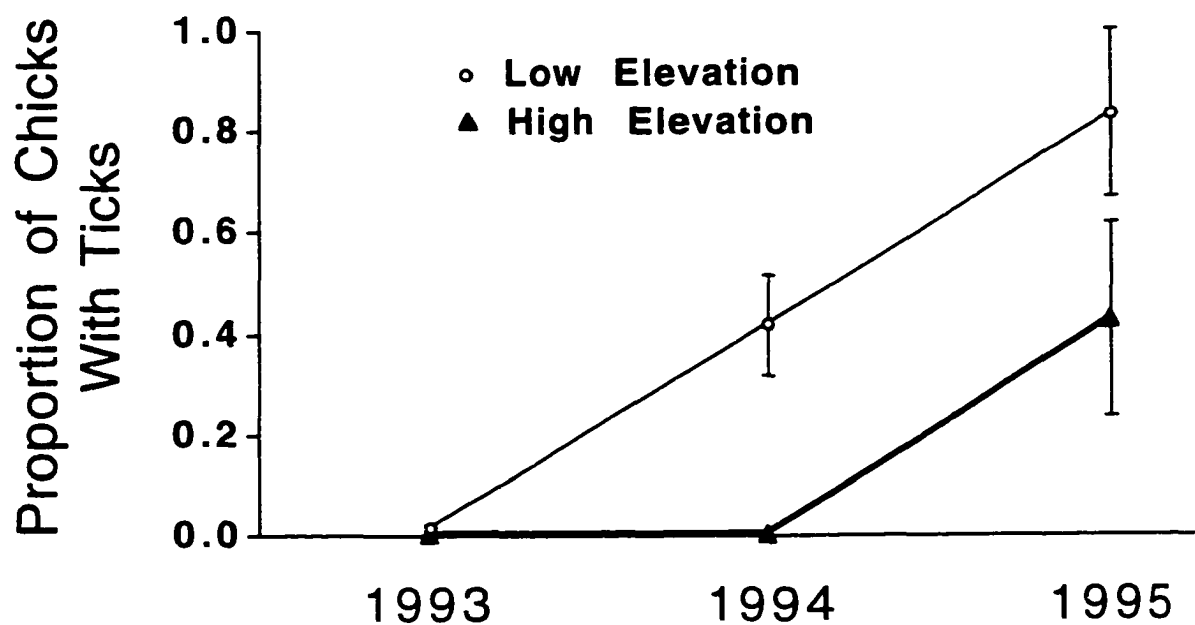


Figure 4.5. Patterns of tick infestation of kittiwake chicks. Tick infestation (proportion of chicks with ticks) increased significantly across years and was highest overall at low elevations. Data for both kittiwake species pooled in this analysis.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

The estimated breeding population of red-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island (194,000 individuals) comprises more than 80% of the estimated global breeding population of this species. Furthermore, red-legged kittiwakes are not uniformly distributed within St. George Island, rather, they are concentrated within the "High Bluff" area where they experience enhanced reproductive performance. As a consequence, this 4 km stretch of high-elevation cliffs is the core breeding area for red-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island and is critical breeding habitat for the species as a whole. Therefore, precautions should be taken to protect the High Bluff area from human disturbance during the kittiwake breeding season (May - September).

I found that the nesting distribution of red-legged kittiwakes on St. George Island is not shaped by competitive displacement by larger-bodied black-legged kittiwakes; rather, nest site preferences differ markedly between species (Red-legged kittiwakes prefer narrow ledges, black-legged kittiwakes prefer wide ledges and both species prefer ledges located in areas where conspecifics nest at high density), and nest sites are not limiting to either species (kittiwake populations have declined by 30-40% over the past 20 years on St. George Island). Although competitive displacement does not currently shape the nesting distribution of kittiwakes, interspecific competition may have shaped nest-site preferences at some time during the evolutionary history of these two species. Therefore, current nest-site preferences and resource partitioning of kittiwakes may be a "ghost of competition past".

Food shortage and poor productivity are currently believed to have caused population declines of kittiwakes in the early 1980's on St. George Island (Hatch et al. 1993); however, factors affecting the food supply and productivity of kittiwakes are poorly understood at present. I found that weather explained between 34% and 68% of inter-annual variability in kittiwake reproduction: kittiwakes bred earlier and had better reproductive performance in summers preceded by colder winters with more extensive

sea ice cover. Surprisingly, kittiwake productivity was poorly related to weather conditions during the actual breeding season. These results suggest that winter weather has an indirect effect on kittiwake reproduction by affecting the distribution and abundance of kittiwake prey the following summer. In contrast, reduced growth rates of kittiwake chicks exposed to strong winds and differences between the two species in effects of wind on chick growth, suggest that weather can directly affect breeding kittiwakes via energetic demands of thermoregulation and foraging efficiency of adults.

In addition to interannual variability, kittiwakes on St. George Island exhibited two marked spatial patterns of within-colony variability in productivity: variability among areas (the "High Bluff" effect) and variability among plots sharing similar characteristics (the "Within Area" effect). Traditional hypotheses for within-colony variability (food abundance, localized predators, weather, parasites and disease, information centers, social facilitation) do not explain these patterns. Two possible explanations, localized "Bird Quality" and "Information Neighborhoods", are complex but generate exclusive predictions which can be experimentally tested.

I have not answered the "big picture" questions regarding population declines and poor, variable productivity of kittiwakes on St. George Island. I can't explain why populations declined or why they stabilized. Although food abundance is generally believed to drive productivity and populations of seabirds, little is known about factors regulating prey populations and the availability of prey to surface-feeding seabirds. Furthermore, although prey availability may explain inter-annual variability in kittiwake productivity, it can't explain substantial within-colony variability observed on St. George Island. The main strength and drawback of the scientific method is that it advances our understanding of complex patterns through the gradual accumulation of facts, small bits of information. Although my research has not answered the "big picture" questions, it has contributed substantially to our understanding of factors affecting populations and productivity of the little-studied red-legged kittiwake, and its ecological relationship to

the more widespread and better studied black-legged kittiwake.

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Appendix A. Raw counts for whole-island census photos in 1995.

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Village	1	m48-3	2	July 30	1900	0	0
Village	1	m48-2	2	July 30	1900	7	11
Village	1	m47-25	2	July 30	1903	11	8
Village	1	m47-23	2	July 30	1903	112	8
Village	1	m47-22	2	July 30	1906	71	1
Village	1	m47-21	2	July 30	1909	3	3
Village	1	m48-4	2	July 30	1909	0	0
Village	1	m48-5	3	July 30	1912	0	8
Village	1	m48-7	3	July 30	1912	0	2
Village	1	m48-8	1	July 30	1915	22	20
Village	1	m48-9	2	July 30	1915	28	47
Village	1	m48-10	1	July 30	1918	53	18
Village	1	m48-11	2	July 30	1918	56	32
Village	1	m48-13	2	July 30	1921	12	6
Village	1	m48-14	2	July 30	1921	19	1
Village	1	m48-15	2	July 30	1924	58	4
Village	1	m48-16	2	July 30	1924	0	0
Village	1	m48-17	2	July 30	1927	0	0
Village	1	m47-2	2	July 30	1927	13	2
Village	1	m47-3	2	July 30	1930	30	1
Village	1	m47-4	2	July 30	1930	11	1
Village	1	m47-5	3	July 30	1933	24	1
Village	1	m47-7	3	July 30	1933	61	2
Village	1	m47-8	3	July 30	1936	170	0
Village	1	m47-9	3	July 30	1936	82	0
Village	1	m47-10	3	July 30	1939	20	2
Village	1	m47-11	3	July 30	1939	67	1
Village	1	m47-13	2	July 30	1942	55	3
Village	1	m47-14	1	July 30	1942	71	0
Village	1	m47-15	2	July 30	1945	58	0
Village	1	m47-16	2	July 30	1945	55	1
Village	1	m47-17	2	July 30	1948	131	1
Village	1	m47-19	2	July 30	1948	12	0
Village	1	m47-20	2	July 30	1951	0	0
Village	1	m45-19	2	July 30	1951	0	0
Village	1	m45-20	2	July 30	1914	0	0
Village	1	m45-21	2	July 30	1954	0	0
Village	1	m45-22	2	July 30	1957	28	0
Village	1	m45-23	2	July 30	1957	26	2
Village	1	m45-25	2	July 30	2000	60	0
Village	1	m46-2	2	July 30	2000	46	0
Village	1	m46-3	1	July 30	2003	60	0
Village	1	m46-9	2	July 30	2003	3	0
Village	1	m46-4	2	July 30	2006	112	0
Village	1	m46-5	2	July 30	2006	47	1
Village	1	m46-7	2	July 30	2009	3	0
Village	1	m46-8	2	July 30	2009	2	3

^a 1 = 0 - 91.5 m, 2 = >91.5 m - 180 m, 3 = > 180 m.

^b 1 = sharp, 2 = good, 3 = blurred.

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clanty ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Village	1	m46-10	2	July 30	2012	3	0
Village	1	m46-16	2	July 30	2012	0	0
Village	1	m46-15	2	July 30	2015	71	5
Village	1	m46-14	2	July 30	2015	125	16
Village	1	m46-13	2	July 30	2018	5	1
Village	1	m46-11	2	July 30	2018	30	19
Village	1	m46-17	2	July 30	2021	0	0
Village	1	m46-19	2	July 30	2021	39	0
Village	1	m46-20	2	July 30	2024	2	0
Village	1	m46-21	2	July 30	2024	8	22
Village	1	m46-22	2	July 30	2027	62	36
Village	1	m46-23	2	July 30	2027	32	0
Village	1	m46-25	2	July 30	2030	0	0
First Bluff	1	m26-11	2	July 30	1215	0	0
First Bluff	1	m26-13	2	July 30	1218	0	0
First Bluff	1	m26-14	1	July 30	1221	28	5
First Bluff	1	m26-15	1	July 30	1224	133	53
First Bluff	1	m26-16	1	July 30	1227	69	55
First Bluff	2	m26-19	1	July 30	1230	128	7
First Bluff	1	m26-17	1	July 30	1231	122	69
First Bluff	2	m26-20	1	July 30	1232	171	43
First Bluff	1	m26-21	2	July 30	1233	66	48
First Bluff	2	m27-2	3	July 30	1234	134	62
First Bluff	1	m26-22	2	July 30	1235	146	147
First Bluff	2	m27-3	3	July 30	1236	16	14
First Bluff	1	m26-23	2	July 30	1237	243	131
First Bluff	2	m27-4	3	July 30	1238	89	20
First Bluff	1	m26-25	2	July 30	1239	648	40
First Bluff	2	m27-13	2	July 30	1240	35	20
First Bluff	2	m27-9	1	July 30	1241	544	63
First Bluff	1	m27-5	1	July 30	1242	273	38
First Bluff	2	m27-10	1	July 30	1243	261	32
First Bluff	1	m27-7	1	July 30	1244	203	127
First Bluff	2	m27-11	1	July 30	1245	85	2
First Bluff	1	m27-8	1	July 30	1246	112	142
First Bluff	2	m27-19	1	July 30	1247	265	53
First Bluff	1	m27-14	1	July 30	1248	76	13
First Bluff	2	m27-20	1	July 30	1249	599	46
First Bluff	1	m27-15	1	July 30	1250	31	14
First Bluff	2	m27-21	1	July 30	1251	224	151
First Bluff	1	m27-16	1	July 30	1252	127	223
First Bluff	2	m27-22	1	July 30	1253	185	42
First Bluff	1	m27-17	1	July 30	1254	158	231
First Bluff	1	m27-23	1	July 30	1255	143	151
First Bluff	1	m27-25	1	July 30	1256	120	106
First Bluff	1	m28-2	1	July 30	1257	237	307
First Bluff	1	m28-3	1	July 30	1258	272	125
First Bluff	1	m28-4	3	July 30	1259	194	86
First Bluff	1	m28-7	3	July 30	1300	135	195
First Bluff	1	m28-8	2	July 30	1301	187	179
First Bluff	1	m28-9	2	July 30	1302	214	274
High Bluff	2	m28-16	2	July 30	1303	331	118

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clanty ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
High Bluff	1	m28-10	3	July 30	1304	117	210
High Bluff	2	m28-17	2	July 30	1305	354	354
High Bluff	1	m28-11	3	July 30	1306	122	219
High Bluff	2	m28-19	3	July 30	1307	223	227
High Bluff	1	m28-13	1	July 30	1308	115	225
High Bluff	2	m28-20	3	July 30	1309	298	178
High Bluff	1	m28-14	2	July 30	1310	102	175
High Bluff	3	m36-17	1	July 30	1539	421	11
High Bluff	2	m28-21M	2	July 30	1310	434	255
High Bluff	1	m28-15	1	July 30	1311	185	67
High Bluff	3	m36-16	2	July 30	1538	269	3
High Bluff	2	m29-2M	2	July 30	1312	435	436
High Bluff	1	m28-22	1	July 30	1313	82	260
High Bluff	3	m36-15U	2	July 30	1537	123	11
High Bluff	2	m36-15M	2	July 30	1537	408	74
High Bluff	2	m29-3	2	July 30	1314	129	10
High Bluff	1	m28-23	2	July 30	1315	90	222
High Bluff	3	m36-14U	2	July 30	1536	358	16
High Bluff	2	m36-14M	1	July 30	1536	244	138
High Bluff	1	m28-25	2	July 30	1316	138	215
High Bluff	3	m36-13U	2	July 30	1535	160	7
High Bluff	2	m36-13M	2	July 30	1535	286	80
High Bluff	3	m36-5	2	July 30	1534	391	15
High Bluff	3	m36-11U	2	July 30	1533	99	2
High Bluff	2	m36-11M	2	July 30	1533	286	65
High Bluff	2	m36-22	2	July 30	1540	350	83
High Bluff	1	m36-19	2	July 30	1541	98	257
High Bluff	3	m36-4U	2	July 30	1532	197	11
High Bluff	2	m36-4M	2	July 30	1532	117	26
High Bluff	3	m36-3U	2	July 30	1531	288	25
High Bluff	2	m36-3M	2	July 30	1531	170	26
High Bluff	2	m36-23	2	July 30	1542	559	291
High Bluff	1	m36-20	2	July 30	1543	102	320
High Bluff	3	m35-16U	2	July 30	1530	699	95
High Bluff	2	m35-16M	2	July 30	1530	355	87
High Bluff	2	m36-25	1	July 30	1544	441	158
High Bluff	1	m36-21	2	July 30	1545	68	151
High Bluff	3	m36-2	2	July 30	1545	87	3
High Bluff	3	m35-15U	2	July 30	1529	420	17
High Bluff	2	m35-15M	2	July 30	1529	183	1
High Bluff	2	m38-5	2	July 30	1543	314	46
High Bluff	1	m38-2	2	July 30	1547	105	88
High Bluff	3	m35-9	2	July 30	1528	186	0
High Bluff	3	m36-9	3	July 30	1528	91	8
High Bluff	3	m35-22U	1	July 30	1527	61	0
High Bluff	2	m35-22M	2	July 30	1557	351	40
High Bluff	2	m38-7	2	July 30	1548	582	356
High Bluff	1	m38-3	3	July 30	1549	57	103
High Bluff	3	m35-21U	2	July 30	1526	203	3
High Bluff	2	m35-21M	2	July 30	1526	223	26
High Bluff	2	m38-8	2	July 30	1550	111	66
High Bluff	1	m38-4	2	July 30	1551	118	41

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
High Bluff	3	m35-23	3	July 30	1525	437	2
High Bluff	3	m35-8U	2	July 30	1524	857	6
High Bluff	2	m35-8M	2	July 30	1524	343	12
High Bluff	2	m38-14	3	July 30	1552	481	103
High Bluff	1	m38-9	2	July 30	1553	175	183
High Bluff	3	m35-20	2	July 30	1523	149	0
High Bluff	3	m35-7U	2	July 30	1522	1665	63
High Bluff	2	m35-7M	2	July 30	1522	816	13
High Bluff	2	m38-15	3	July 30	1554	467	69
High Bluff	1	m38-10	2	July 30	1555	114	130
High Bluff	3	m35-5U	3	July 30	1521	217	0
High Bluff	2	m35-5M	3	July 30	1521	600	9
High Bluff	3	m35-19	1	July 30	1520	2027	38
High Bluff	2	m38-16	2	July 30	1556	600	56
High Bluff	1	m38-11	2	July 30	1557	154	19
High Bluff	3	m35-4	3	July 30	1519	1770	30
High Bluff	3	m35-13U	3	July 30	1518	1438	4
High Bluff	2	m35-13M	3	July 30	1518	237	1
High Bluff	2	m38-17	3	July 30	1558	232	26
High Bluff	1	m38-13	2	July 30	1559	167	31
High Bluff	1	m38-19	3	July 30	1600	61	2
High Bluff	3	m35-3U	3	July 30	1517	1038	17
High Bluff	2	m35-3M	3	July 30	1517	197	9
High Bluff	2	m38-25	2	July 30	1601	594	67
High Bluff	1	m38-20	3	July 30	1602	49	0
High Bluff	3	m35-2U	3	July 30	1516	1131	0
High Bluff	2	m35-2M	3	July 30	1516	90	0
High Bluff	3	m34-14	3	July 30	1515	1149	0
High Bluff	2	m39-2	1	July 30	1603	459	20
High Bluff	1	m38-21	2	July 30	1604	26	0
High Bluff	3	m34-25	1	July 30	1514	2942	14
High Bluff	3	m34-13	3	July 30	1513	228	0
High Bluff	3	m35-10	3	July 30	1512	350	0
High Bluff	2	m39-5	1	July 30	1605	351	5
High Bluff	1	m38-22	2	July 30	1606	52	1
High Bluff	3	m34-23	2	July 30	1511	1970	2
High Bluff	2	m39-4	1	July 30	1607	0	0
High Bluff	1	m38-23	3	July 30	1608	114	30
High Bluff	3	m34-20	3	July 30	1510	858	36
High Bluff	3	m34-9	3	July 30	1509	1571	53
High Bluff	2	m39-7	2	July 30	1609	152	5
High Bluff	2	m39-14	3	July 30	1610	722	137
High Bluff	1	m39-8	2	July 30	1611	106	3
High Bluff	1	m39-9	3	July 30	1612	52	7
High Bluff	3	m34-19	2	July 30	1508	439	9
High Bluff	3	m34-22	3	July 30	1507	1678	8
High Bluff	2	m39-15	3	July 30	1613	631	56
High Bluff	1	m39-10	3	July 30	1614	25	0
High Bluff	3	m34-8	3	July 30	1506	1685	36
High Bluff	3	m34-7	3	July 30	1505	2239	63
High Bluff	2	m39-16	3	July 30	1615	339	34
High Bluff	1	m39-11	3	July 30	1616	70	1

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
High Bluff	1	m39-13	3	July 30	1617	39	2
High Bluff	3	m34-16	2	July 30	1504	887	54
High Bluff	3	m34-21	2	July 30	1503	120	5
High Bluff	3	m34-5	3	July 30	1502	1069	58
High Bluff	3	m34-15	2	July 30	1501	617	59
High Bluff	2	m39-17	3	July 30	1618	796	90
High Bluff	2	m39-20	3	July 30	1619	314	21
High Bluff	1	m39-22	3	July 30	1620	364	139
High Bluff	3	m33-20	2	July 30	1550	342	0
High Bluff	3	m34-10	2	July 30	1459	378	0
High Bluff	3	m34-4	3	July 30	1458	51	0
High Bluff	2	m40-8	2	July 30	1621	792	1
High Bluff	1	m39-23	3	July 30	1622	243	369
High Bluff	3	m34-3	3	July 30	1458	246	0
High Bluff	3	m33-19	2	July 30	1457	192	0
High Bluff	3	m34-11	2	July 30	1457	870	0
High Bluff	2	m40-9	1	July 30	1623	809	1
High Bluff	1	m39-25	3	July 30	1624	570	185
High Bluff	3	m33-17	2	July 30	1456	1238	263
High Bluff	2	m40-10	1	July 30	1625	1057	164
High Bluff	1	m40-4	2	July 30	1626	158	46
High Bluff	1	m40-5	2	July 30	1627	187	127
High Bluff	3	m33-25	3	July 30	1456	605	58
High Bluff	3	m33-16	2	July 30	1455	330	0
High Bluff	2	m40-11	2	July 30	1628	880	43
High Bluff	2	m39-21	3	July 30	1629	627	3
High Bluff	1	m40-7	2	July 30	1630	157	210
High Bluff	3	m33-15	1	July 30	1455	1108	8
High Bluff	3	m33-23	2	July 30	1454	1534	126
High Bluff	2	m40-19	1	July 30	1631	822	6
High Bluff	1	m40-14	2	July 30	1632	176	87
High Bluff	3	m33-10	3	July 30	1454	1582	141
High Bluff	3	m40-13	2	July 30	1633	923	5
High Bluff	2	m40-20	1	July 30	1634	553	1
High Bluff	1	m40-15	1	July 30	1635	127	13
High Bluff	3	m33-9	2	July 30	1453	1950	279
High Bluff	2	m40-21	2	July 30	1636	557	11
High Bluff	1	m40-16	2	July 30	1637	133	58
High Bluff	3	m33-21U	3	July 30	1453	791	82
High Bluff	2	m33-21M	3	July 30	1452	98	13
High Bluff	3	m33-8	2	July 30	1452	467	3
High Bluff	2	m40-22	2	July 30	1638	709	14
High Bluff	1	m40-17	2	July 30	1639	109	46
High Bluff	3	m33-14	2	July 30	1451	36	0
High Bluff	3	m33-7	2	July 30	1451	563	8
High Bluff	3	m33-5	2	July 30	1450	617	6
High Bluff	3	m33-13	2	July 30	1450	132	4
High Bluff	2	m41-4	2	July 30	1640	701	64
High Bluff	2	m41-5	2	July 30	1641	831	125
High Bluff	2	m41-7	2	July 30	1642	970	105
High Bluff	1	m40-23	1	July 30	1643	71	2
High Bluff	1	m40-25	2	July 30	1644	35	1

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
High Bluff	1	m41-2	2	July 30	1645	2	0
High Bluff	1	m41-3	2	July 30	1646	0	0
High Bluff	3	m33-4	2	July 30	1449	2099	89
High Bluff	2	m41-8	2	July 30	1647	457	208
High Bluff	1	m41-9	2	July 30	1647	115	0
High Bluff	3	m33-3	1	July 30	1448	892	179
High Bluff	3	m32-23	1	July 30	1447	1012	12
High Bluff	2	m41-14	2	July 30	1648	357	110
High Bluff	2	m41-15	2	July 30	1648	426	142
High Bluff	1	m41-10	2	July 30	1649	112	71
High Bluff	3	m32-16	3	July 30	1446	462	0
High Bluff	3	m32-22	2	July 30	1445	961	44
High Bluff	3	m32-2	2	July 30	1445	98	0
High Bluff	2	m41-16	2	July 30	1649	528	79
High Bluff	1	m41-11	2	July 30	1650	133	158
High Bluff	1	m41-13	2	July 30	1650	169	33
High Bluff	3	m32-21	2	July 30	1443	1304	7
High Bluff	3	m32-15	2	July 30	1443	976	25
High Bluff	2	m42-2	2	July 30	1651	566	92
High Bluff	2	m42-3	1	July 30	1651	581	15
High Bluff	1	m41-20	2	July 30	1652	77	1
High Bluff	1	m41-21	1	July 30	1652	361	12
High Bluff	3	m32-14	3	July 30	1442	745	1
High Bluff	3	m32-20	3	July 30	1442	283	0
High Bluff	2	m42-4	1	July 30	1653	556	6
High Bluff	1	m41-22	2	July 30	1653	125	4
High Bluff	3	m32-11	2	July 30	1441	644	25
High Bluff	3	m32-9	2	July 30	1440	309	0
High Bluff	3	m32-19	1	July 30	1440	97	0
High Bluff	2	m42-5	2	July 30	1654	314	10
High Bluff	2	m41-19	1	July 30	1654	101	0
High Bluff	1	m41-23	2	July 30	1655	97	2
High Bluff	2	m42-7	2	July 30	1655	90	0
High Bluff	2	m41-17	3	July 30	1656	78	0
High Bluff	1	m41-25	2	July 30	1656	160	100
High Bluff	2	m42-11	2	July 30	1657	101	17
High Bluff	1	m42-8	1	July 30	1658	80	119
High Bluff	2	m42-10	2	July 30	1659	79	1
High Bluff	1	m42-9	2	July 30	1700	165	128
Needle Rock	1	m42-13	2	July 30	1701	165	117
Needle Rock	1	m42-14	2	July 30	1702	206	219
Needle Rock	1	m42-15	2	July 30	1703	219	143
Needle Rock	1	m42-16	2	July 30	1704	176	85
Needle Rock	1	m42-17	2	July 30	1705	197	88
Needle Rock	1	m42-19	2	July 30	1706	440	21
Needle Rock	1	m42-20	2	July 30	1707	344	16
Needle Rock	1	m42-22	1	July 30	1708	257	36
Needle Rock	1	m42-23	2	July 30	1709	117	38
Needle Rock	1	m42-25	2	July 30	1710	218	214
Needle Rock	1	m43-2	2	July 30	1711	211	242
Needle Rock	1	m43-3	2	July 30	1712	415	176
Needle Rock	2	m43-14	1	July 30	1713	269	104

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clarity *	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Needle Rock	1	m43-8	2	July 30	1714	981	163
Needle Rock	2	m43-15	2	July 30	1715	981	163
Needle Rock	1	m43-9	3	July 30	1716	189	110
Needle Rock	1	m43-19	2	July 30	1717	72	23
Needle Rock	1	m43-5	1	July 30	1718	138	61
Needle Rock	2	m43-20	2	July 30	1719	111	0
Needle Rock	2	m43-16	2	July 30	1720	1134	133
Needle Rock	2	m43-4	1	July 30	1721	158	6
Needle Rock	1	m43-10	2	July 30	1722	122	15
Needle Rock	2	m43-17	2	July 30	1723	341	94
Needle Rock	1	m43-13	3	July 30	1724	37	102
Needle Rock	1	m43-11	2	July 30	1725	233	235
Needle Rock	2	m44-7	2	July 30	1726	49	23
Needle Rock	1	m44-9	1	July 30	1727	108	14
Needle Rock	1	m44-5	2	July 30	1728	227	172
Needle Rock	2	m44-10	2	July 30	1729	66	0
Needle Rock	2	m45-17	2	July 30	1730	216	14
Needle Rock	2	m44-8	1	July 30	1731	741	42
Needle Rock	2	m44-4	2	July 30	1732	2392	40
Needle Rock	1	m43-25	2	July 30	1733	223	122
Needle Rock	2	m44-3	2	July 30	1734	2646	84
Needle Rock	1	m43-23	2	July 30	1735	267	46
Needle Rock	2	m43-21	3	July 30	1736	217	4
Needle Rock	2	m44-2	2	July 30	1737	1552	29
Needle Rock	1	m43-22	1	July 30	1738	422	1
Needle Rock	1	m44-11	2	July 30	1739	223	94
Needle Rock	2	m2-18	3	July 15	1626	156	42
Needle Rock	1	m44-13	2	July 30	1740	255	169
Needle Rock	2	m2-16	3	July 15	1624	91	44
Needle Rock	1	m44-14	3	July 30	1741	162	65
Needle Rock	2	m2-15	3	July 15	1622	115	18
Needle Rock	1	m44-15	2	July 30	1742	103	7
Needle Rock	2	m2-14	2	July 15	1620	6	0
Needle Rock	1	m44-16	2	July 30	1743	323	35
Needle Rock	2	m2-13	2	July 15	1618	0	0
Needle Rock	1	m44-17	2	July 30	1744	228	62
Needle Rock	2	m2-12	2	July 15	1616	17	16
Needle Rock	1	m44-19	2	July 30	1745	248	59
Needle Rock	2	m2-10	2	July 15	1614	54	28
Needle Rock	1	m44-20	2	July 30	1746	556	117
Needle Rock	2	m2-9	2	July 15	1612	109	58
Needle Rock	1	m44-21	1	July 30	1747	504	19
Needle Rock	2	m2-8	2	July 15	1610	120	49
Needle Rock	1	m44-22	1	July 30	1748	223	47
Needle Rock	2	m2-7	2	July 15	1608	412	41
Needle Rock	1	m44-23	2	July 30	1749	315	70
Needle Rock	2	m2-6	3	July 15	1606	100	115
Needle Rock	1	m44-25	1	July 30	1750	285	32
Needle Rock	2	m2-4	3	July 15	1604	323	106
Needle Rock	1	m45-2	2	July 30	1751	286	83
Needle Rock	2	m2-3	3	July 15	1602	213	33
Needle Rock	1	m45-3	2	July 30	1752	313	239

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clarity °	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Needle Rock	2	m2-2	3	July 15	1600	16	25
Needle Rock	1	m45-4	2	July 30	1753	136	93
Needle Rock	1	m45-11	3	July 30	1754	190	21
Needle Rock	1	m45-5	2	July 30	1755	259	80
Needle Rock	2	m2-19	2	July 15	1630	0	4
Needle Rock	1	m45-7	2	July 30	1756	143	159
Needle Rock	2	m2-20	2	July 15	1632	0	0
Needle Rock	1	m45-8	2	July 30	1757	185	102
Needle Rock	2	m2-21	3	July 15	1634	5	35
Needle Rock	1	m45-9	2	July 30	1758	120	53
Needle Rock	2	m2-22	3	July 15	1636	179	148
Needle Rock	1	m45-10	2	July 30	1759	113	152
Needle Rock	2	m2-24	2	July 15	1638	36	141
Needle Rock	1	m45-13	2	July 30	1800	102	59
Needle Rock	2	m2-23	2	July 15	1640	22	97
Needle Rock	1	m45-14	2	July 30	1801	67	99
Needle Rock	2	m2-7	2	July 15	1642	123	7
Needle Rock	1	m45-15	2	July 30	1802	173	24
Needle Rock	2	m32-5	2	July 30	1803	413	23
Needle Rock	2	m32-4	2	July 30	1804	374	34
Needle Rock	2	m32-3	2	July 30	1805	149	60
Needle Rock	1	m45-16	2	July 30	1806	123	10
Needle Rock	1	m31-25	1	July 30	1807	226	13
Needle Rock	1	m31-23	1	July 30	1808	93	0
Needle Rock	1	m32-2	2	July 30	1809	160	14
Dalnoi	2	m31-22	2	July 30	1430	94	43
Dalnoi	1	m31-20	2	July 30	1429	103	67
Dalnoi	2	m31-17	3	July 30	1428	103	189
Dalnoi	1	m31-19	2	July 30	1427	106	115
Dalnoi	2	m31-16	2	July 30	1426	372	347
Dalnoi	1	m31-11	2	July 30	1425	4	59
Dalnoi	2	m31-15	2	July 30	1424	485	228
Dalnoi	1	m31-10	2	July 30	1423	21	9
Dalnoi	2	m31-14	2	July 30	1422	344	73
Dalnoi	2	m31-8	1	July 30	1421	151	11
Dalnoi	1	m31-9	2	July 30	1420	121	23
Dalnoi	1	m31-4	3	July 30	1419	26	36
Dalnoi	2	m31-7	2	July 30	1418	166	17
Dalnoi	1	m31-3	2	July 30	1417	0	0
Dalnoi	2	m31-5	2	July 30	1416	834	177
Dalnoi	1	m31-2	2	July 30	1415	0	0
Dalnoi	2	m30-22	2	July 30	1414	573	109
Dalnoi	1	m30-25	2	July 30	1413	46	13
Dalnoi	2	m30-21	2	July 30	1412	600	261
Dalnoi	1	m30-23	2	July 30	1410	163	69
Dalnoi	2	m30-20	3	July 30	1409	210	203
Dalnoi	1	m30-15	3	July 30	1408	141	110
Dalnoi	2	m30-19	3	July 30	1407	608	570
Dalnoi	1	m30-14	3	July 30	1406	31	155
Dalnoi	2	m30-17	3	July 30	1405	537	595
Dalnoi	1	m30-13	3	July 30	1404	93	102
Dalnoi	2	m30-16	3	July 30	1403	483	529

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clanty ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Dalnoi	1	m30-11	2	July 30	1402	26	21
Dalnoi	2	m30-10	2	July 30	1401	519	506
Dalnoi	1	m30-7	2	July 30	1400	94	73
Dalnoi	2	m30-9	2	July 30	1359	471	273
Dalnoi	1	m30-5	2	July 30	1358	168	45
Dalnoi	2	m30-8	2	July 30	1357	679	194
Dalnoi	1	m30-4	2	July 30	1356	99	95
Dalnoi	2	m30-3	2	July 30	1355	669	285
Dalnoi	1	m29-23	3	July 30	1354	111	55
Dalnoi	2	m30-2	2	July 30	1353	674	374
Dalnoi	1	m29-22	3	July 30	1352	95	78
Dalnoi	2	m29-25	3	July 30	1351	339	373
Dalnoi	1	m29-21	3	July 30	1350	30	24
Dalnoi	1	m29-20	3	July 30	1349	0	4
Dalnoi	2	m29-19	1	July 30	1348	565	226
Dalnoi	1	m29-15	2	July 30	1347	133	184
Dalnoi	2	m29-17	1	July 30	1346	640	128
Dalnoi	1	m29-14	2	July 30	1345	189	185
Dalnoi	2	m29-16	2	July 30	1344	458	171
Dalnoi	1	m29-13	2	July 30	1343	124	89
Dalnoi	2	m29-11	2	July 30	1342	308	121
Dalnoi	1	m29-7	2	July 30	1341	0	0
Dalnoi	2	m29-10	2	July 30	1340	366	78
Dalnoi	1	m29-5	3	July 30	1339	110	17
Fox Castle	1	m21-14	3	July 27	1745	17	12
Fox Castle	1	m21-15	3	July 27	1746	54	131
Fox Castle	1	m21-16	3	July 27	1747	125	192
Fox Castle	1	m21-17	3	July 27	1747	157	305
Fox Castle	1	m21-19	2	July 27	1748	50	268
Fox Castle	2	m21-21	2	July 27	1749	31	120
Fox Castle	1	m21-20	2	July 27	1750	131	167
Fox Castle	2	m22-4	3	July 27	1750	45	79
Fox Castle	1	m21-22	2	July 27	1751	12	85
Fox Castle	2	m22-5	3	July 27	1752	157	108
Fox Castle	1	m21-23	3	July 27	1753	129	11
Fox Castle	2	m22-7	3	July 27	1753	140	253
Fox Castle	1	m21-25	2	July 27	1754	195	119
Fox Castle	2	m22-8	3	July 27	1755	83	468
Fox Castle	1	m22-2	3	July 27	1756	35	344
Fox Castle	2	m22-9	3	July 27	1756	157	412
Fox Castle	1	m22-3	3	July 27	1757	40	191
Fox Castle	2	m22-10	3	July 27	1758	360	1003
Fox Castle	1	m22-11	2	July 27	1759	136	141
Fox Castle	2	m22-15	3	July 27	1759	91	69
Fox Castle	1	m22-13	2	July 27	1800	95	246
Fox Castle	2	m23-7	3	July 27	1801	464	16
Fox Castle	1	m23-8	2	July 27	1802	66	11
Fox Castle	2	m22-16	2	July 27	1802	41	29
Fox Castle	1	m22-14	2	July 27	1803	253	339
Fox Castle	2	m22-21	2	July 27	1804	115	63
Fox Castle	2	m23-9	2	July 27	1805	70	2
Fox Castle	1	m22-17	3	July 27	1805	132	47

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clarity *	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Fox Castle	2	m22-22	2	July 27	1806	117	11
Fox Castle	1	m22-19	3	July 27	1807	26	93
Fox Castle	2	m22-23	2	July 27	1808	88	21
Fox Castle	1	m22-20	2	July 27	1808	88	52
Fox Castle	2	m23-10	2	July 27	1809	55	17
Fox Castle	2	m22-25	2	July 27	1810	169	25
Fox Castle	1	m23-11	2	July 27	1811	38	1
Fox Castle	1	m23-3	2	July 27	1811	63	11
Fox Castle	2	m23-2	3	July 27	1812	163	132
Fox Castle	1	m23-4	2	July 27	1813	83	118
Fox Castle	2	m23-15	3	July 27	1814	253	18
Fox Castle	2	m23-17	3	July 27	1814	375	17
Fox Castle	1	m23-5	2	July 27	1815	93	94
Fox Castle	1	m23-16	2	July 27	1816	128	54
Fox Castle	2	m23-13	3	July 27	1817	223	39
Fox Castle	2	m23-14	2	July 27	1817	129	22
Fox Castle	1	m23-19	2	July 27	1818	181	161
Fox Castle	2	m23-22	3	July 27	1819	113	88
Fox Castle	1	m23-20	3	July 27	1820	92	86
Fox Castle	1	m23-21	3	July 27	1820	46	39
Fox Castle	2	m24-2	3	July 27	1821	279	69
Fox Castle	2	m24-3	3	July 27	1822	80	2
Fox Castle	1	m23-23	2	July 27	1823	169	147
Fox Castle	1	m23-25	2	July 27	1823	138	56
Fox Castle	2	m24-9	2	July 27	1824	142	118
Fox Castle	1	m24-5	2	July 27	1825	88	30
Fox Castle	2	m24-10	2	July 27	1826	154	143
Fox Castle	1	m24-7	2	July 27	1826	42	2
Fox Castle	2	m24-11	3	July 27	1827	116	114
Fox Castle	1	m24-8	3	July 27	1828	41	12
Fox Castle	2	m24-19	2	July 27	1829	69	48
Fox Castle	2	m24-20	2	July 27	1829	107	69
Fox Castle	1	m24-13	2	July 27	1830	101	117
Fox Castle	1	m24-14	2	July 27	1831	54	39
Fox Castle	1	m24-15	2	July 27	1832	19	36
Fox Castle	2	m24-21	2	July 27	1832	97	119
Fox Castle	1	m24-16	1	July 27	1833	96	124
Fox Castle	2	m24-22	2	July 27	1834	49	121
Fox Castle	1	m24-17	2	July 27	1835	0	0
Fox Castle	2	m25-4	2	July 27	1835	36	46
Fox Castle	1	m24-23	2	July 27	1836	24	25
Fox Castle	2	m25-5	2	July 27	1837	75	166
Fox Castle	1	m24-25	2	July 27	1838	5	1
Fox Castle	2	m25-7	2	July 27	1839	201	82
Fox Castle	1	m25-2	2	July 27	1839	1	0
Fox Castle	2	m25-8	2	July 27	1840	102	37
Fox Castle	1	m25-3	2	July 27	1841	77	115
Fox Castle	2	m25-14	2	July 27	1842	230	161
Fox Castle	1	m25-9	3	July 27	1842	18	108
Fox Castle	2	m25-15	2	July 27	1843	133	113
Fox Castle	1	m25-10	3	July 27	1844	4	10
Fox Castle	2	m25-16	2	July 27	1845	135	93

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Fox Castle	1	m25-11	3	July 27	1846	5	53
Fox Castle	2	m25-17	2	July 27	1846	35	7
Fox Castle	1	m25-13	2	July 27	1847	4	188
Fox Castle	2	m25-22	2	July 27	1848	86	5
Fox Castle	1	m25-19	2	July 27	1849	0	6
Fox Castle	2	m25-23	2	July 27	1849	96	27
Fox Castle	1	m25-20	2	July 27	1850	6	5
Fox Castle	2	m25-25	2	July 27	1851	1852	6
Fox Castle	1	m25-21	2	July 27	1852	25	20
Fox Castle	2	m26-4	3	July 27	1853	29	19
Fox Castle	1	m26-2	2	July 27	1854	1	1
Fox Castle	2	m26-5	3	July 27	1855	139	69
Fox Castle	1	m26-3	3	July 27	1855	11	115
Zapadni	1	m5-4	2	July 23	1300	0	0
Zapadni	1	m5-5	2	July 23	1303	0	0
Zapadni	1	m5-7	2	July 23	1306	0	1
Zapadni	1	m5-8	2	July 23	1309	0	1
Zapadni	1	m5-9	2	July 23	1312	0	0
Zapadni	1	m5-10	3	July 23	1315	1	0
Zapadni	1	m5-11	3	July 23	1318	1	2
Zapadni	1	m5-13	2	July 23	1321	8	2
Zapadni	1	m5-14	2	July 23	1324	6	2
Zapadni	1	m5-15	2	July 23	1327	20	4
Zapadni	1	m5-16	2	July 23	1330	55	12
Zapadni	1	m5-17	2	July 23	1333	5	1
Zapadni	1	m5-19	2	July 23	1336	7	19
Zapadni	1	m5-20	2	July 23	1339	9	6
Zapadni	1	m5-21	2	July 23	1342	0	0
Zapadni	1	m5-22	2	July 23	1345	0	0
Zapadni	1	m5-23	2	July 23	1348	0	0
Zapadni	1	m5-25	2	July 23	1351	26	35
Zapadni	1	gap#1	2	July 23	1421	162	141
Zapadni	1	m6-16	3	July 23	1424	2	5
Zapadni	1	m6-17	3	July 23	1427	11	28
Zapadni	1	m6-19	3	July 23	1430	55	59
Zapadni	1	m6-20	3	July 23	1433	25	43
Zapadni	1	m6-21	2	July 23	1436	48	31
Zapadni	1	m6-22	2	July 23	1439	4	4
Zapadni	1	m6-23	2	July 23	1442	25	17
Zapadni	1	m6-25	2	July 23	1445	51	22
Zapadni	1	m7-3	3	July 23	1447	61	62
Zapadni	1	m7-4	3	July 23	1450	22	71
Zapadni	1	m7-5	2	July 23	1453	61	60
Zapadni	1	m7-7	2	July 23	1456	82	61
Zapadni	1	m7-8	2	July 23	1459	31	59
Zapadni	1	m7-9	2	July 23	1502	24	30
Zapadni	1	m7-10	2	July 23	1505	39	34
Zapadni	1	m7-11	2	July 23	1508	26	38
Zapadni	1	m7-13	2	July 23	1511	91	61
Zapadni	1	m7-14	3	July 23	1514	15	22
Zapadni	1	m7-15	3	July 23	1517	12	65
Zapadni	1	m7-16	2	July 23	1520	34	96

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Zapadni	1	m7-17	2	July 23	1523	42	50
Zapadni	1	m7-19	2	July 23	1526	65	43
Zapadni	1	m7-20	2	July 23	1529	7	61
Zapadni	1	m7-21	2	July 23	1532	5	57
Zapadni	1	m7-22	2	July 23	1535	21	30
Zapadni	1	m7-23	2	July 23	1538	48	54
Zapadni	1	m7-25	2	July 23	1541	17	56
Zapadni	1	m8-2	3	July 23	1544	55	62
Zapadni	1	m8-3	3	July 23	1547	13	67
Red Bluff	1	m17-20	2	July 27	1600	170	172
Red Bluff	1	m17-21	2	July 27	1601	232	180
Red Bluff	1	m17-22	2	July 27	1602	145	32
Red Bluff	1	m17-23	2	July 27	1603	166	63
Red Bluff	1	m17-25	2	July 27	1604	129	82
Red Bluff	1	m18-2	2	July 27	1605	241	86
Red Bluff	1	m18-3	2	July 27	1606	86	131
Red Bluff	1	m18-4	2	July 27	1607	179	92
Red Bluff	1	m18-5	2	July 27	1608	399	179
Red Bluff	1	m18-7	2	July 27	1609	90	157
Red Bluff	1	m18-8	2	July 27	1610	151	153
Red Bluff	1	m18-9	2	July 27	1611	319	198
Red Bluff	1	m18-10	2	July 27	1612	116	208
Red Bluff	1	m18-11	2	July 27	1613	178	174
Red Bluff	1	m18-13	2	July 27	1614	256	227
Red Bluff	1	m18-14	2	July 27	1615	516	270
Red Bluff	1	m18-15	2	July 27	1616	148	250
Red Bluff	1	m18-16	2	July 27	1617	581	205
Red Bluff	1	m18-17	2	July 27	1618	508	157
Red Bluff	1	m18-19	2	July 27	1619	336	270
Red Bluff	1	m18-20	2	July 27	1620	356	338
Red Bluff	1	m18-21	2	July 27	1621	222	268
Red Bluff	1	m18-22	3	July 27	1622	81	308
Red Bluff	1	m18-23	3	July 27	1623	177	170
Red Bluff	1	m18-25	2	July 27	1624	200	347
Red Bluff	1	m19-2	2	July 27	1625	229	229
Red Bluff	1	m19-3	2	July 27	1626	270	302
Red Bluff	1	m19-4	2	July 27	1627	149	219
Red Bluff	1	m19-5	2	July 27	1628	177	254
Red Bluff	1	m19-7	2	July 27	1629	93	106
Red Bluff	1	m19-8	3	July 27	1630	263	222
Red Bluff	1	m19-9	3	July 27	1631	324	159
Red Bluff	1	m19-10	2	July 27	1632	232	239
Red Bluff	1	m19-11	2	July 27	1633	203	218
Red Bluff	1	m19-13	2	July 27	1634	160	220
Red Bluff	1	m19-14	2	July 27	1635	211	215
Red Bluff	1	m19-15	2	July 27	1636	85	99
Red Bluff	1	m19-16	2	July 27	1637	137	138
Red Bluff	1	m19-17	2	July 27	1638	25	256
Red Bluff	1	m19-19	2	July 27	1639	35	82
Red Bluff	1	m19-20	2	July 27	1640	72	142
Red Bluff	1	m19-21	2	July 27	1641	165	150
Red Bluff	1	m19-25	2	July 27	1642	28	163

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Red Bluff	1	m19-22	2	July 27	1643	87	81
Red Bluff	1	m20-2	3	July 27	1644	13	88
Red Bluff	1	m19-23	2	July 27	1645	112	140
Red Bluff	1	m20-8	2	July 27	1646	35	51
Red Bluff	1	m20-3	2	July 27	1647	184	49
Red Bluff	1	m20-9	2	July 27	1648	5	49
Red Bluff	1	m20-14	2	July 27	1649	57	26
Red Bluff	1	m20-4	2	July 27	1650	122	55
Red Bluff	1	m20-10	2	July 27	1651	62	112
Red Bluff	1	m20-5	2	July 27	1652	17	13
Red Bluff	1	m20-7	2	July 27	1653	127	35
Red Bluff	1	m20-11	2	July 27	1654	57	65
Red Bluff	1	m20-13	2	July 27	1655	21	56
Red Bluff	1	m20-15	2	July 27	1656	38	75
Red Bluff	1	m20-17	2	July 27	1657	30	85
Red Bluff	1	m20-16	2	July 27	1658	191	56
Red Bluff	1	m20-19	2	July 27	1659	31	116
Red Bluff	1	m20-21	3	July 27	1700	68	58
Red Bluff	1	m20-20	2	July 27	1710	25	110
Red Bluff	1	m20-22	3	July 27	1712	101	84
Red Bluff	1	m20-23	2	July 27	1723	39	69
Red Bluff	1	m20-25	2	July 27	1704	84	133
Red Bluff	1	m21-2	3	July 27	1705	48	113
Red Bluff	1	m21-3	3	July 27	1706	136	53
Red Bluff	1	m21-4	3	July 27	1707	143	72
Red Bluff	1	m21-5	3	July 27	1708	54	112
Red Bluff	1	m21-7	3	July 27	1709	49	78
Red Bluff	1	m21-8	2	July 27	1710	87	37
Red Bluff	1	m21-9	2	July 27	1711	40	26
Red Bluff	1	m21-10	2	July 27	1712	68	120
Red Bluff	1	m21-11	2	July 27	1713	40	70
Red Bluff	1	m9-9	3	July 23	1750	30	86
Red Bluff	1	m9-11	3	July 23	1748	149	122
Red Bluff	1	m9-8	3	July 23	1746	192	167
Red Bluff	1	m9-7	3	July 23	1742	115	144
Red Bluff	1	m9-5	3	July 23	1740	75	112
Red Bluff	1	m9-4	3	July 23	1738	88	34
Red Bluff	1	m9-3	2	July 23	1736	100	56
Red Bluff	1	m9-2	2	July 23	1734	215	121
Red Bluff	1	m8-25	2	July 23	1732	71	130
Red Bluff	1	m8-24	2	July 23	1730	118	36
Red Bluff	1	m8-23	2	July 23	1728	18	9
Red Bluff	1	m8-20	2	July 23	1726	3	1
Red Bluff	1	m8-19	2	July 23	1724	0	0
Red Bluff	1	m8-18	2	July 23	1722	3	0
Red Bluff	1	m8-17	2	July 23	1720	30	1
Red Bluff	1	m8-15	2	July 23	1718	0	0
Red Bluff	1	m8-14	2	July 23	1716	0	0
Red Bluff	1	m8-13	2	July 23	1714	8	11
Red Bluff	1	m8-12	1	July 23	1712	67	11
Red Bluff	1	m8-11	2	July 23	1710	65	50
Red Bluff	1	m8-9	3	July 23	1708	82	109

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clanty °	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Red Bluff	1	m8-8	3	July 23	1706	49	56
Red Bluff	1	m8-7	2	July 23	1704	90	67
Red Bluff	1	m8-6	2	July 23	1702	193	44
Red Bluff	1	m8-5	2	July 23	1700	10	1
Garden Cove	1	m12-9	2	July 27	1257	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m12-10	2	July 27	1258	1	2
Garden Cove	1	m12-11	2	July 27	1300	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m12-13	2	July 27	1301	0	1
Garden Cove	1	m12-14	2	July 27	1302	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m12-15	2	July 27	1303	3	0
Garden Cove	1	m12-16	2	July 27	1305	36	7
Garden Cove	1	m12-17	2	July 27	1306	2	1
Garden Cove	1	m12-19	2	July 27	1307	24	2
Garden Cove	1	m12-20	2	July 27	1308	90	1
Garden Cove	1	m12-21	2	July 27	1309	40	12
Garden Cove	1	m12-22	2	July 27	1311	67	40
Garden Cove	1	m12-23	2	July 27	1312	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m12-25	2	July 27	1313	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-2	2	July 27	1314	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-3	2	July 27	1316	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-4	2	July 27	1317	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-5	2	July 27	1318	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-7	2	July 27	1319	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-8	2	July 27	1321	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-9	2	July 27	1322	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-10	2	July 27	1323	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-11	2	July 27	1324	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-13	2	July 27	1326	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-14	2	July 27	1327	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-15	2	July 27	1328	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-16	2	July 27	1329	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-17	2	July 27	1331	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-19	2	July 27	1332	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-20	2	July 27	1333	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-21	2	July 27	1334	0	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-22	2	July 27	1336	4	0
Garden Cove	1	m13-23	2	July 27	1337	301	82
Garden Cove	1	m13-25	2	July 27	1338	386	217
Garden Cove	1	m14-2	3	July 27	1339	290	161
Garden Cove	1	m14-3	3	July 27	1341	239	112
Garden Cove	1	m14-4	3	July 27	1342	121	112
Garden Cove	1	m14-5	2	July 27	1343	147	157
Garden Cove	1	m14-7	2	July 27	1344	139	89
Garden Cove	1	m14-8	1	July 27	1346	50	135
Garden Cove	1	m14-9	2	July 27	1347	149	105
Garden Cove	1	m14-10	2	July 27	1348	469	135
Garden Cove	1	m14-11	1	July 27	1349	258	152
Garden Cove	1	m14-13	2	July 27	1351	298	187
Garden Cove	1	m14-14	2	July 27	1352	424	100
Garden Cove	1	m14-15	1	July 27	1353	439	20
Garden Cove	1	m14-17	2	July 27	1354	100	19
Garden Cove	1	m14-16	2	July 27	1356	180	43

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier *	Census Photo	Photo Clanty ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Garden Cove	1	m14-19	2	July 27	1357	91	46
Garden Cove	1	m14-20	1	July 27	1358	94	169
Garden Cove	1	m14-21	1	July 27	1359	15	193
Garden Cove	1	m14-22	1	July 27	1401	38	141
Garden Cove	1	m14-23	2	July 27	1402	182	69
Garden Cove	1	m15-8M	2	July 27	1403	2	26
Garden Cove	1	m15-8L	2	July 27	1404	122	49
Garden Cove	1	m14-25	1	July 27	1406	69	38
Garden Cove	1	m15-9M	2	July 27	1407	5	61
Garden Cove	1	m15-9L	2	July 27	1408	63	55
Garden Cove	1	m15-2	1	July 27	1409	32	43
Garden Cove	1	m15-10M	2	July 27	1411	4	59
Garden Cove	1	m15-10L	2	July 27	1412	92	53
Garden Cove	1	m15-3	1	July 27	1413	39	27
Garden Cove	1	m15-11M	2	July 27	1414	36	29
Garden Cove	1	m15-11L	2	July 27	1416	43	28
Garden Cove	1	m15-4	1	July 27	1417	168	7
Garden Cove	1	m15-13M	2	July 27	1418	3	25
Garden Cove	1	m15-13L	2	July 27	1419	54	59
Garden Cove	1	m15-5	2	July 27	1420	92	87
Garden Cove	1	m15-14M	1	July 27	1421	2	23
Garden Cove	1	m15-14L	2	July 27	1422	44	60
Garden Cove	1	m15-7	2	July 27	1423	126	53
Garden Cove	1	m15-20M	2	July 27	1425	1	0
Garden Cove	1	m15-20L	2	July 27	1426	12	100
Garden Cove	1	m15-15	2	July 27	1427	152	76
Garden Cove	1	m15-21M	2	July 27	1428	0	47
Garden Cove	1	m15-21L	2	July 27	1430	93	68
Garden Cove	1	m15-16	2	July 27	1431	114	72
Garden Cove	1	m15-22M	1	July 27	1432	4	25
Garden Cove	1	m15-22L	2	July 27	1433	109	59
Garden Cove	1	m15-17	2	July 27	1435	7	39
Garden Cove	1	m15-23U	2	July 27	1436	40	44
Garden Cove	1	m15-23L	2	July 27	1437	20	65
Garden Cove	1	m15-19	2	July 27	1438	4	38
Garden Cove	1	m15-25M	2	July 27	1440	0	36
Garden Cove	1	m15-25L	2	July 27	1441	47	224
Garden Cove	1	m16-2	2	July 27	1442	156	188
Garden Cove	1	m16-3	1	July 27	1443	196	119
Garden Cove	1	m16-4	1	July 27	1445	146	136
Garden Cove	1	m16-5	2	July 27	1446	66	198
Garden Cove	1	m16-7	2	July 27	1447	16	148
Garden Cove	1	m16-8	2	July 27	1448	218	141
Garden Cove	1	m16-9	2	July 27	1450	118	120
Garden Cove	1	m16-10	2	July 27	1451	160	86
Garden Cove	1	m16-11	2	July 27	1452	121	128
Garden Cove	1	m16-13	2	July 27	1453	93	90
Garden Cove	1	m16-14	2	July 27	1455	196	141
Garden Cove	1	m16-15	2	July 27	1456	225	206
Garden Cove	1	m16-16	1	July 27	1457	106	124
Garden Cove	1	m16-17	1	July 27	1458	46	82
Garden Cove	1	m16-19	1	July 27	1500	130	34

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Garden Cove	1	m16-20	1	July 27	1501	426	10
Garden Cove	1	m16-21	1	July 27	1502	102	110
Garden Cove	1	m16-22	1	July 27	1504	22	127
Garden Cove	1	m16-23	2	July 27	1505	48	173
Garden Cove	1	m16-25	3	July 27	1506	44	218
Garden Cove	1	gap#2	2	July 27	1508	516	734
Garden Cove	1	m17-2	1	July 27	1509	268	221
Garden Cove	1	m17-3	1	July 27	1510	191	354
Garden Cove	1	m17-4	1	July 27	1512	428	264
Garden Cove	1	m17-5	1	July 27	1513	365	275
Garden Cove	1	m17-7	2	July 27	1514	775	336
Garden Cove	1	m17-8	2	July 27	1516	300	242
Garden Cove	1	m17-9	2	July 27	1517	59	90
Garden Cove	1	m17-10	2	July 27	1518	155	219
Garden Cove	1	m17-11	2	July 27	1520	58	173
Garden Cove	1	m17-13	2	July 27	1521	166	411
Garden Cove	1	m17-14	1	July 27	1522	289	186
Garden Cove	1	m17-15	2	July 27	1524	391	198
Garden Cove	1	m17-16	2	July 27	1525	422	337
Garden Cove	1	m17-17	2	July 27	1526	232	180
Garden Cove	1	m17-19	2	July 27	1528	68	69
Tolstoi	1	m9-13	2	July 27	1145	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-14	2	July 27	1146	7	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-15	2	July 27	1147	32	3
Tolstoi	1	m9-16	1	July 27	1148	63	1
Tolstoi	1	m9-17	1	July 27	1150	11	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-19	2	July 27	1151	30	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-20	2	July 27	1152	17	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-21	2	July 27	1153	12	1
Tolstoi	1	m9-22	2	July 27	1155	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-23	2	July 27	1156	1	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-24	2	July 27	1157	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m9-25	2	July 27	1158	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-2	2	July 27	1200	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-3	2	July 27	1201	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-4	2	July 27	1202	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-5	2	July 27	1203	14	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-7	1	July 27	1205	113	3
Tolstoi	1	m10-8	2	July 27	1206	26	1
Tolstoi	1	m10-9	2	July 27	1207	14	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-10	1	July 27	1208	49	0
Tolstoi	1	m10-11	2	July 27	1210	31	8
Tolstoi	1	m10-13	1	July 27	1211	156	5
Tolstoi	1	m10-14	2	July 27	1212	92	20
Tolstoi	1	m10-15	1	July 27	1213	118	35
Tolstoi	1	m10-16	1	July 27	1215	93	7
Tolstoi	1	m10-17	1	July 27	1216	166	27
Tolstoi	1	m10-19	1	July 27	1217	34	11
Tolstoi	1	m10-20	1	July 27	1218	122	36
Tolstoi	1	m10-21	1	July 27	1220	102	58
Tolstoi	1	m10-22	2	July 27	1221	32	24
Tolstoi	1	m10-23	2	July 27	1222	36	39

Appendix A. (continued)

Cliff Section	Tier ^a	Census Photo	Photo Clarity ^b	Date	Time (ADT)	Raw Kittiwake Count (Kr)	Raw Fulmar Count (Fr)
Tolstoi	1	m10-25	2	July 27	1223	57	69
Tolstoi	1	m11-2	2	July 27	1225	154	22
Tolstoi	1	m11-3	2	July 27	1226	53	42
Tolstoi	1	m11-4	2	July 27	1227	54	15
Tolstoi	1	m11-5	2	July 27	1228	20	11
Tolstoi	1	m11-7	2	July 27	1230	14	9
Tolstoi	1	m11-8	3	July 27	1231	4	22
Tolstoi	1	m11-9	2	July 27	1232	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m11-10	2	July 27	1233	46	77
Tolstoi	1	m11-11	2	July 27	1235	66	91
Tolstoi	1	m11-13	2	July 27	1236	11	28
Tolstoi	1	m11-14	2	July 27	1237	0	0
Tolstoi	1	m11-15	2	July 27	1238	5	0
Tolstoi	1	m11-16	2	July 27	1240	24	21
Tolstoi	1	m11-17	2	July 27	1241	185	83
Tolstoi	1	m11-22	3	July 27	1242	84	55
Tolstoi	1	m11-19	2	July 27	1243	82	61
Tolstoi	1	m11-20	2	July 27	1245	111	38
Tolstoi	1	m11-23	2	July 27	1246	183	55
Tolstoi	1	m11-21	3	July 27	1247	313	128
Tolstoi	1	m11-25	2	July 27	1248	539	171
Tolstoi	1	m12-2	3	July 27	1250	249	166
Tolstoi	1	m12-3	2	July 27	1251	291	72
Tolstoi	1	m12-4	2	July 27	1252	210	11
Tolstoi	1	m12-5	2	July 27	1253	61	0
Tolstoi	1	m12-7	2	July 27	1255	1	0
Tolstoi	1	m12-8	2	July 27	1256	0	0

^a 1 = 0 - 91.5 m, 2 = >91.5 m - 180 m, 3 = > 180 m.

^b 1 = sharp, 2 = good, 3 = blurred.

Appendix B. Counts of kittiwakes on land-based plots in 1995. Total counts of adult Red-legged (RLKI) and Black-legged (BLKI) Kittiwakes and nests ("Rnest" and "Bnest" respectively) presented for 54 land-based census plots on St. George Island.

Area	Plot	Subplot	Tier *	Day	Time	RLKI	Rnest	BLKI	Bnest
High Bluff	40		3	July 21	1840	93	12	15	3
High Bluff	41	t	3	July 21	1800	201	48	14	1
High Bluff	41	b	3	July 21	1820	163	31	31	9
High Bluff	42	a	3	July 21	1730	137	40	0	0
High Bluff	42	b	3	July 21	1730	0	0	0	0
High Bluff	43		3	July 21	1930	430	183	9	2
High Bluff	44		3	July 21	1900	423	205	17	6
High Bluff	54	a	3	July 21	1835	51	5	0	0
High Bluff	54	b	3	July 21	1828	126	22	0	0
High Bluff	54	c	3	July 21	1835	128	25	0	0
High Bluff	55		3	July 21	1850	245	95	7	0
High Bluff	40		3	July 24	1645	98	17	18	3
High Bluff	41	t	3	July 24	1636	173	53	22	1
High Bluff	41	b	3	July 24	1639	166	35	23	11
High Bluff	42	a	3	July 24	1620	136	38	0	0
High Bluff	42	b	3	July 24	1623	2	0	0	0
High Bluff	43		3	July 24	1230	364	159	7	3
High Bluff	44		3	July 24	1300	358	198	13	6
High Bluff	54	a	3	July 24	1414	45	3	0	0
High Bluff	54	b	3	July 24	1419	80	27	0	0
High Bluff	54	c	3	July 24	1423	132	33	0	0
High Bluff	55		3	July 24	1430	252	88	3	1
High Bluff	40		3	July 29	1528	161	17	16	2
High Bluff	41	t	3	July 29	1544	173	47	31	4
High Bluff	41	b	3	July 29	1546	165	31	26	11
High Bluff	42	a	3	July 29	1230	109	59	0	0
High Bluff	42	b	3	July 29	1230	1	0	0	0
High Bluff	43		3	July 29	1255	398	199	3	2
High Bluff	44		3	July 29	1610	418	197	14	7
High Bluff	54	a	3	July 29	1550	67	6	0	0
High Bluff	54	b	3	July 29	1555	85	29	0	0
High Bluff	54	c	3	July 29	1545	117	45	0	0
High Bluff	55		3	July 29	1515	236	85	7	2
High Bluff	42	a	3	Aug 3	1215	135	57	1	1
High Bluff	42	b	3	Aug 3	1215	1	0	0	0
High Bluff	43		3	Aug 3	1255	455	201	3	2
High Bluff	44		3	Aug 3	1515	461	194	16	6
First Bluff	1	a	2	July 21	2055	37	5	5	1
First Bluff	1	b	2	July 21	2100	21	6	0	0
First Bluff	2		2	July 21	2045	11	2	7	0
First Bluff	39		1	July 21	2040	15	4	13	1
First Bluff	1	a	2	July 29	1433	58	4	0	0
First Bluff	1	b	2	July 29	1435	21	4	2	0
First Bluff	2		2	July 29	1454	11	2	3	0
First Bluff	39		1	July 29	1459	53	4	14	3
Zapadni	8		1	July 26	1746	0	0	0	0
Zapadni	9		1	July 26	1738	0	0	9	0
Zapadni	10		1	July 26	1735	2	0	0	0
Zapadni	11		1	July 26	1730	0	0	0	0
Zapadni	12		1	July 26	1724	0	0	0	0
Zapadni	13o		1	July 26	1717	0	0	0	0

* 1 = 0 - 91.5 m, 2 = >91.5 m - 180 m, 3 = > 180 m.

Appendix B. (continued)

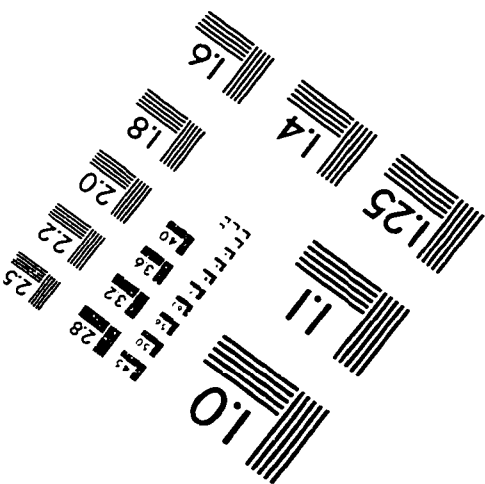
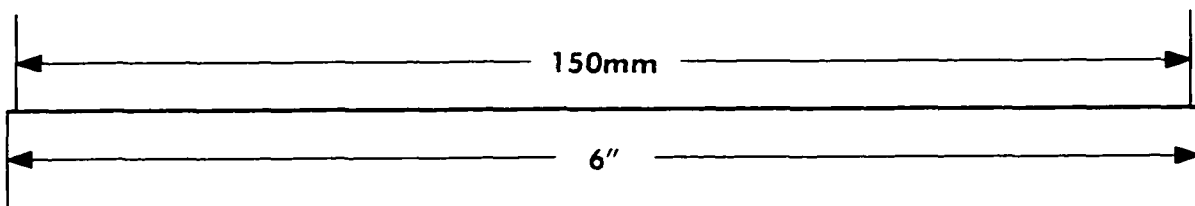
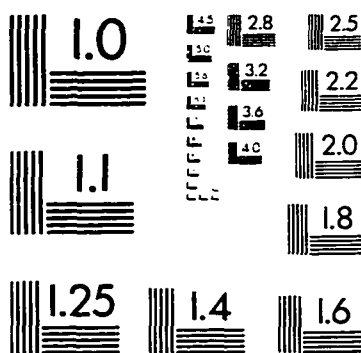
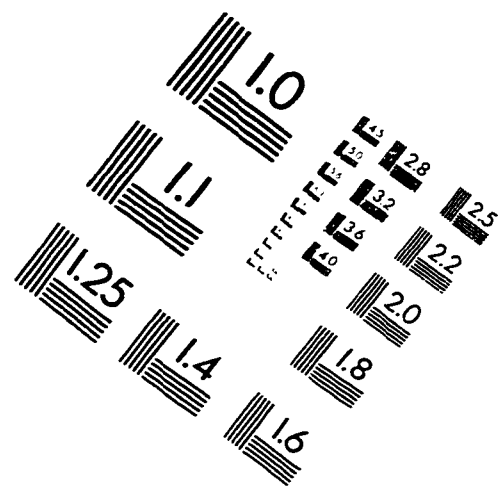
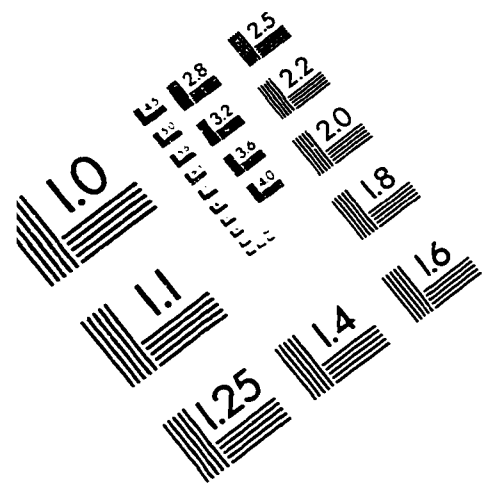
Area	Plot	Subplot	Tier *	Day	Time	RLKI	Rnest	BLKI	Bnest
Zapadni	14		1	July 26	1709	0	0	2	0
Zapadni	15		1	July 26	1645	16	3	0	0
Zapadni	16		1	July 26	1635	0	0	4	1
Zapadni	17		1	July 26	1625	21	4	7	0
Zapadni	18		1	July 26	1615	2	0	3	0
Zapadni	19		1	July 26	1605	0	0	6	2
Zapadni	20		1	July 26	1821	0	0	1	0
Zapadni	75		1	July 26	1911	0	0	5	1
Zapadni	8		1	Aug 1	1525	3	0	7	0
Zapadni	9		1	Aug 1	1516	0	0	3	0
Zapadni	10		1	Aug 1	1510	0	0	0	0
Zapadni	11		1	Aug 1	1507	0	0	0	0
Zapadni	12		1	Aug 1	1501	1	0	0	0
Zapadni	13o		1	Aug 1	1453	0	0	0	0
Zapadni	14		1	Aug 1	1446	0	0	3	0
Zapadni	15		1	Aug 1	1436	19	3	3	0
Zapadni	16		1	Aug 1	1432	0	0	4	1
Zapadni	17		1	Aug 1	1428	11	4	6	0
Zapadni	18		1	Aug 1	1401	1	0	5	0
Zapadni	19		1	Aug 1	1353	1	0	11	3
Zapadni	20		1	Aug 1	1349	2	0	0	0
Zapadni	75		1	Aug 1	1630	2	0	9	1
Red Bluff	21		1	July 19	1530	0	0	3	1
Red Bluff	22		1	July 19	1535	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	23		1	July 19	1540	12	2	0	0
Red Bluff	24	t	1	July 19	1555	1	0	19	4
Red Bluff	24	m	1	July 19	1600	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	25		1	July 19	1610	8	3	7	1
Red Bluff	26		1	July 19	1615	0	0	2	0
Red Bluff	27	t	1	July 19	1620	23	3	21	1
Red Bluff	27	b	1	July 19	1625	14	3	6	0
Red Bluff	28	i	1	July 19	1630	7	2	10	0
Red Bluff	28	m	1	July 19	1635	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	29		1	July 19	1645	15	4	0	0
Red Bluff	30	i	1	July 19	1650	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	30	r	1	July 19	1655	9	0	10	3
Red Bluff	31		1	July 19	1705	0	0	1	0
Red Bluff	32	t	1	July 19	1710	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	32	b	1	July 19	1710	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	33	a	1	July 19	1725	28	4	3	0
Red Bluff	33	b	1	July 19	1723	7	0	0	0
Red Bluff	33	c	1	July 19	1721	18	3	5	0
Red Bluff	33	d	1	July 19	1719	10	2	4	0
Red Bluff	34		1	July 19	1815	9	3	0	0
Red Bluff	35	t	1	July 19	1835	12	0	22	1
Red Bluff	35	b	1	July 19	1840	22	5	5	1
Red Bluff	36		1	July 19	1900	2	0	1	0
Red Bluff	37	t	1	July 19	1930	10	2	12	3
Red Bluff	37	b	1	July 19	1935	3	0	3	1
Red Bluff	38	t	1	July 19	1950	1	0	0	0
Red Bluff	38	m	1	July 19	1955	2	0	4	1
Red Bluff	38	b	1	July 19	1945	1	0	9	0
Red Bluff	21		1	Aug 5	1820	0	0	5	0
Red Bluff	22		1	Aug 5	1825	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	23		1	Aug 5	1830	19	2	3	0
Red Bluff	24	t	1	Aug 5	1850	3	0	34	3
Red Bluff	24	m	1	Aug 5	1855	0	0	0	0

Appendix B. (continued)

Area	Plot	Subplot	Tier *	Day	Time	RLKI	Rnest	BLKI	Bnest
Red Bluff	25		1	Aug 5	1925	7	2	16	4
Red Bluff	26		1	Aug 5	1920	0	0	5	0
Red Bluff	27	t	1	Aug 5	1930	30	3	22	3
Red Bluff	27	b	1	Aug 5	1935	21	2	4	0
Red Bluff	28	l	1	Aug 5	1940	4	1	9	2
Red Bluff	28	m	1	Aug 5	1945	1	0	7	1
Red Bluff	29		1	Aug 5	1950	27	6	3	1
Red Bluff	30	l	1	Aug 5	2000	0	0	1	0
Red Bluff	30	r	1	Aug 5	2005	6	1	18	1
Red Bluff	31		1	Aug 5	2010	0	0	5	0
Red Bluff	32	t	1	Aug 5	2015	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	32	b	1	Aug 5	2015	0	0	0	0
Red Bluff	33	a	1	Aug 5	2025	76	14	15	3
Red Bluff	33	b	1	Aug 5	2030	1	0	7	2
Red Bluff	33	c	1	Aug 5	2035	3	1	1	0
Red Bluff	33	d	1	Aug 5	2035	8	4	3	0
Red Bluff	34		1	Aug 5	2120	5	2	0	0
Village	58	a	1	July 20	1605	107	18	111	14
Village	58	b	1	July 20	1630	42	2	163	23
Village	58	c	1	July 20	1650	102	9	281	79
Village	59	a	1	July 20	1930	65	8	138	8
Village	59	b	1	July 20	1915	0	0	0	0
Village	59	c	1	July 20	1830	0	0	105	5
Village	81	a	1	July 22	1345	13	1	38	6
Village	81	b	1	July 22	1320	102	17	40	6
Village	81	c	1	July 22	1230	35	3	40	13
Village	81	d	1	July 22	1245	71	8	58	11
Village	81	a	1	July 25	1610	15	2	64	14
Village	81	b	1	July 25	1650	164	27	89	4
Village	81	c	1	July 25	1630	35	3	29	12
Village	81	d	1	July 25	1615	97	11	78	3
Village	81	a	1	July 28	1515	16	1	46	12
Village	81	b	1	July 28	1500	116	39	48	10
Village	81	c	1	July 28	1445	37	6	37	11
Village	81	d	1	July 28	1430	50	7	54	10
Tolstoi	45		1	July 26	1935	0	0	4	0
Tolstoi	46		1	July 26	1920	1	0	27	1
Tolstoi	47		1	July 26	1915	5	3	16	0
Tolstoi	48		1	July 26	1910	4	0	6	0
Tolstoi	49		1	July 26	1900	0	0	0	0
Tolstoi	50		1	July 26	1900	0	0	0	0
Tolstoi	51		1	July 26	1850	1	0	2	0
Tolstoi	52		1	July 26	1840	69	16	56	7
Tolstoi	53		1	July 26	1955	71	32	225	83
Tolstoi	45		1	Aug 1	1550	0	0	4	0
Tolstoi	46		1	Aug 1	1530	2	1	34	3
Tolstoi	47		1	Aug 1	1520	0	0	10	0
Tolstoi	48		1	Aug 1	1510	5	0	12	0
Tolstoi	49		1	Aug 1	1505	0	0	0	0
Tolstoi	50		1	Aug 1	1500	0	0	0	0
Tolstoi	51		1	Aug 1	1455	1	0	1	0
Tolstoi	52		1	Aug 1	1435	62	14	63	5
Tolstoi	53		1	Aug 1	1610	67	29	251	87

* 1 = 0 - 91.5 m, 2 = >91.5 m - 180 m, 3 = > 180 m.

IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (QA-3)



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